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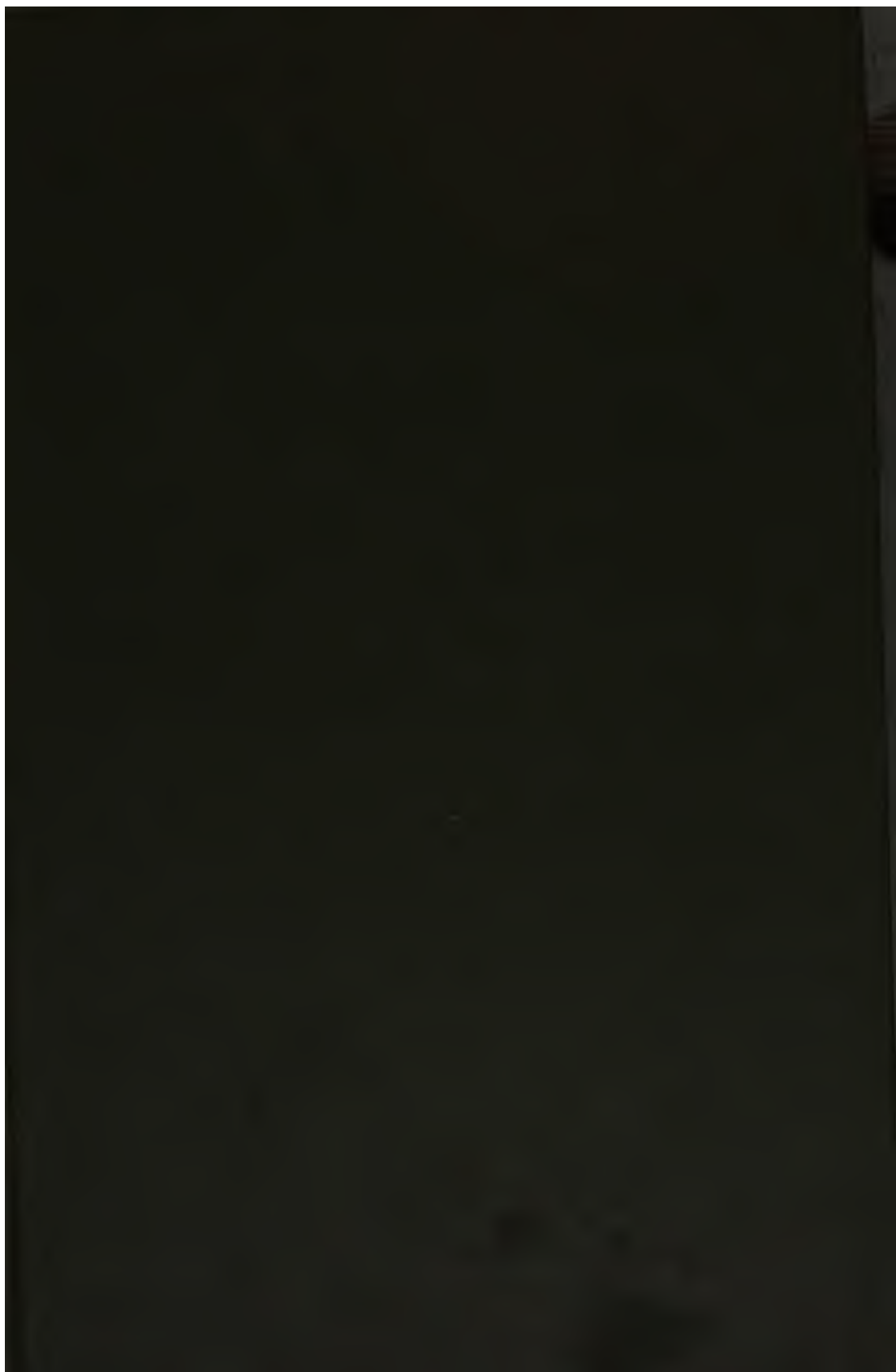
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THE HISTORY  
OF THE  
PROVINCE OF MORAY.

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VOL. II.

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THE HISTORY  
OF THE  
PROVINCE OF MORAY.

*Comprising the Counties of Elgin and Nairn, the greater part of the County of Inverness, and a portion of the County of Banff,—all called the Province of Moray before there was a division into Counties.*

BY LACHLAN SHAW.

*NEW EDITION.—IN THREE VOLUMES.*

*Enlarged and brought down to the Present Time*

BY J. F. S. GORDON,  
*Author of "Scotichronicon," "Monasticon," &c.*

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# HISTORY OF THE PROVINCE OF MORAY.

## ANTIQUITIES OF MORAY—ELGIN PAST AND PRESENT.

A Lecture delivered on 23rd October, 1860, for the benefit of the Elgin Literary and Scientific Association, and printed at their request.

By Cosmo Innes, formerly Sheriff of Moray.

Mr. President, and Ladies and Gentlemen,—When the gentlemen of the Elgin Literary and Scientific Association did me the honour to ask me to deliver a lecture here, their request found me very ill prepared. I was at a distance from my usual books and libraries of reference. Even some notes of my own, the memoranda of many years, are shut up at home and inaccessible. I was separated from the small but compact band of literary and antiquarian friends, among whom for a long time I have been accustomed to work, and from whose stores I draw more than it might be discreet to make known. I was not even in Elgin, or one of your good burgh towns, where local information could be readily had. You know I was dwelling in the ghostly old palace of Gordonstown. But alas! the Gordonstown library is gone, and though I did take counsel with the shade of the wizard, Sir Robert, who never failed to join company with me when I trimmed my lamp at midnight, preparing for a spell of work after the world was quiet—I found his line of study was different from mine. He spoke knowingly about a pump of his

own construction, that was to raise water higher with less power than was ever done before, but I soon saw, that was only company talk; and at last the old man—he is a fine bearded old fellow, with some of the features we see in Sir Alexander Cumming—told me honestly that his whole heart was in his crucibles and large alembic, which he had fitted up in the vault of the west wing of the chateau, and which are yet to produce the philosopher's stone, and to yield gold and life as much as the possessor desires to have.

You may be sure I asked the wizard all about old Moray and its ways—how the people lived and thought in the old time. But, bless you! he knew and cared nothing about that. He told me how his grandfather, the tutor of Sutherland, made Gordonstown—joining Ogstown and Pethnik and Burnside to Plewlands, where the Marquis of Huntly had a grotesque old chateau before—and how the son, educated in Holland, had ornamented it with canals, and straight terraces, and avenues—and how he, the wizard himself, had pulled down the middle of the old house and built the present centre, leaving the wings as they were in the first chateau. All that he told me very accurately—also the exact number of bolls victual that came into his granary—oats and bere; but for the people that paid the rent, and the land that produced it, he took no care. They were not worth the thought of a gentleman of coat armour, and, moreover, a philosopher on the very point of discovering the great secret!

But something too much of this fooling. I wish only to explain to you that I have been taken unawares—that I might have declined complying, and found good excuse; but, conscious of no ambitious motive but the desire of giving you pleasure, and doing some little thing for the honour of old Moray, and relying on your forbearance with faults and errors, I hope to put together something to help us to pass away an autumn evening pleasantly.

Having disclaimed the help of the dead magician, I may be allowed to take some pride in the assistance of living men. My friend, Captain Edward Dunbar—I may say my hereditary friend, for our grandfathers were close allies, and constant, almost daily, correspondents—has brought me a mass of family papers, accounts, letters,



notes, many of the most trivial kind, but all how interesting after the lapse of a century or two! He has told me, too, the results of his own study and intimate acquaintance with those stores. He is not like the magician of Gordonstown, and nothing fails to interest him that lets in the least light on old manners. Shall we blame him if he seeks his favourite sport chiefly on the ground occupied by the great name of Dunbar!

I have another debt to acknowledge. A gentleman among you, more knowing than most, perhaps than any one, in the local antiquities of Elgin, and whose time is very valuable, did not hesitate to spend an afternoon in pointing out to me scenes and houses in Elgin that interested me. He has even been kind enough and zealous enough for our common object, to put down for me, in writing, a little volume of interesting notes, taken from the title-deeds that have passed through his hands, and which I hope to make use of for your benefit this evening. Before I name him, you all know that the person to whom I allude is Mr. Robert Young.

I won't begin with the Romans, who indeed had a very slender grip of Scotland; and Dr. Taylor and Mr. Macdonald have not yet determined whether they were in Moray at all.

The Norsemen, too, have left their marks on our coast, but nothing more. Those unaccountable mounds at Burghead may be theirs; and the singular custom of carrying the Yule fire round the village and harbour, and blessing the boats, savours of Scandinavia. That curious head-land, with its harbour sheltered from the north-east, was a likely haven for a band of sea-faring adventurers. But I give them nothing more. *The Forres Stone* is a native Monument; so is *the ancient Monument*\* at Elgin,

\* *The Elgin Pillar* was discovered in 1823 when the streets were under repair, lying about two feet below the surface in a horizontal position, as if it had been thrown down there by accident, a little to the north-east of the old Church of St. Giles. Nothing whatever is known of its previous history. It is now preserved in the Cathedral. This pillar is evidently incomplete, a part having been broken off from one end of it. It is now 6 feet in length,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  in breadth, and 1 foot thick; composed of a reddish grey granite, very like that of Aberdeenshire. The base of this stone is of less breadth than the top,

now preserved in your Cathedral. Both have the Cross and Christian symbols, while the Norse invaders were all Pagans; and what, indeed, of lasting edifice could we expect from those hordes of plunderers, spending their summers in harrying the coast or fighting among themselves, and returning to their northern homes in winter, to drink ale and mead, and sing the glory and the riches of the successful pirate? I leave "the Danes," then, to Mr. Macdonald, who will dig them out if anybody can, and pass on to the next picture in the peep-show.

When we first knew something of our own people—say in or about the year 1200—Moray was the seat of a protracted rebellion, supporting what we may call the Macbeth family, against the reigning dynasty. That rebellion was at length crushed, and with such violence that our chroniclers assure us the whole people of Moray were carried away, and the land given to strangers—evidently a great exaggeration. The tillers of the soil were never cleared out. But at that time—during the reign of David I., and his grandsons Malcolm and William—we have evidence of a great influx of Southern strangers—Norman and Saxon lords, and Flemings, who got large grants of lands in Moray. Whether of these new settlers or de-

which is the case with *the Mortlich Stone*. One side represents very distinctly a hunting party, consisting of four men on horseback, and three dogs: one of these is seizing a deer by the flank. On each side of the uppermost horseman are two birds, most probably hawks. It is difficult to say what the figures above this hunting party represent. One is a crescent reversed; above this are two circular bodies united by two bands, through which passes a zig-zag belt or band. Probably the whole is some form of the mystic knot, so common in Runic carvings; or it may be some representation of the celestial bodies. The reverse of the stone contains, near the base, the Runic knot, with indications of snakes' heads. In the upper division is a cross of very elegant proportions, also covered with the Runic convolutions. Several figures of priests occupy the spaces at each of the four corners: the one on the left appears to have some ornament round his neck. *The Elgin Pillar* may have been commemorative of the death and burial of some great general or chief; or the boundary-mark of hunting grounds. (*Rhind's Sketches*, p. 138.)



scendants of the old lords of the soil, the Family of De Moravia (Moray), taking its surname from the Province, was foremost in power and importance, when charters and records first throw some light upon the population of the province. Undoubtedly they were great Lords, those De Moravias—Lords of Duffus and all its plain, of Bucharn, and Arndilly, and Botriphny over Spey, of Croy and Artirlic, of Petty and Brachly, besides Inverness. All these are their proved possessions, proved by charter evidence. But I think it very probable they had moreover Darnaway, Alves, and the other great possessions of the Earls of Moray. They built castles, one of which is still the admiration of the antiquary. They sent some of their family to civilize the wild Norse Earldom of Caithness, and in recompense had a grant of the southern side of it, which was erected for them into the Earldom of Sutherland. They were great friends of the Church too, giving lands and tithes without number to the Cathedral, of which one of themselves was Bishop.

Do we know anything of the manner of life of these times? Something—not much! We know that the great lords were men of taste in building. Witness the fine remains of Duffus, still so imposing. Witness the strengths which still give interest to the banks of the Fiddich and the Spey. The De Moravias were men of some adventure, or they would not have been put forward to reclaim Caithness, and they must have been stout warriors—good men-at-arms—or they would not have gained the Earldom of Sutherland. But for their domestic and personal manners what shall we say? No doubt they had some feeling of their own dignity and knightly honour, they had assuredly the generous feelings of strong and brave and noble men, of men immeasurably above all that surrounded them, and I am far from undervaluing the qualities that were laced up in the corslet and cuirass of the iron age of chivalry. Of domestic comforts they had not dreamt. Their *Castle of Duffus* had no chimneys nor any window-glass. When the winter winds blew fiercely across the fen, they shut their stout window-boards—outside window shutters—and crowded round a fire of peats in the middle of the hall, while the smoke found its way out as it could, and was welcome, as communicating some

feeling of heat to the upper chambers. There was then no middle class of rural population.

What was the condition of the other extreme of society—the labourers of the soil? I fear they were ill-housed, ill-clothed, ill-fed, not considered by their masters, except as hewers of wood and drawers of water. The beasts of their plough, though starved also, were somewhat better off—their hide, at least, was thicker. It fared ill with such a population in seasons like this, for a bad harvest surely brought famine, and famine brought pestilence; and the marsh fever and ague swept off those whom hunger and the plague spared. For the most part they were slaves, bound to the soil, and bought and sold with it. They were happy only in knowing no better lot. Still, all is not barren from Dan to Beersheba.

There are two pleasant spots for the eye to rest upon, in that dreary time. The little burgh built on the sheltered bank of the Lossie, long before the bishop had chosen it for his seat, was strong in the union of its inhabitants, and secured by the protection which the good King David threw around his burgesses. The King had erected a *Castle* on the green mound at its western extremity—Ladyhill (called so from a Chapel dedicated to the B. Virgin, originally within the Royal Castle, but which survived it)—for defence against marauding pirates from the sea, and the lawless bands from the hills, but still more to support the burghers against the oppression of the neighbouring barons, who were jealous of this little knot of plebeians presuming to be independent—to prefer the government of their own Aldermen, and the jurisdiction of the King's Court, to the tender mercies of the court of the Lord Baron. I say that was one bright spot to rest the eye upon. It was pleasant to see trade, commerce and manufactures bursting into life, amidst an industrious people, now first hoping to enjoy the fruit of their own industry. It was pleasant to see the simple domestic comforts which a town life renders possible for the poor—the cheap luxuries—the mere security, and warmth, and dryness, which formed a contrast with the circumstances of the rural population of Moray of the 13th century.

[On the top of Ladyhill, near the ruins of the Castle, a Tuscan column, 80 feet high, was erected in 1839 to the

memory of the last Duke of Gordon, the funds for which were raised by subscription within the country. A wheeling stair leads to the top, from which is a most extensive panoramic view, extending from Covesea to Cullen, and also the shores of the Caithness coast. In 1855, a statue of the Duke was placed on the top of the column—the late Alex. Craig of Craigton having left a bequest therefor, which was further augmented principally by the Morayshire farmer club. The statue is 12 feet high, and is from the chisel of T. Goodwillie, Elgin.

In 1858, the *Elgin Literary and Scientific Association* conducted excavations on the top of Ladyhill, when the remains of three human bodies were discovered a little to the north of the monument. One of the skeletons is in a sitting posture; the others were in a horizontal position and placed just outside the outer walls of the Castle. A flint arrow-head, several pieces of pottery, a copper coin of Charles II., a quern, and several detached bones were also found.] (*Morayshire Described.*)

Another green oasis in the desert was *the Church*. There the strong man learnt of a power greater than brute strength, and the rich man was taught to call the poor his brother. Thither the starving despairing serf went for food, and found some higher consolation. There he sometimes heard the strange doctrine that in the eyes of God all men are equal.

If you look to the time, the people, the circumstances, the first setting up of the Christian minister to teach Christianity is, after all, the greatest step in the civilization of the world. You must think first—and it isn't very easy for us now—you must think of the utter ignorance—or worse, the degraded Pagan worship of stocks and stones—you must think of the real savage—not the melodramatic Oscars and Selmas of Ossian—but the true, starving, half cannibal savage, without food, or clothes, or shelter, without comfort or support in this world, or hope beyond it—to enable you to appreciate the blessing of the simple message of truth and peace and Divine love. Simple the message must be to suit the people, and simple though the messenger and minister of truth be also, the first revealing of his divine errand is still the great event in man's history.

Next, however, and no unimportant step, was the



binding of Christian men together by the organization of *the Church*. An establishment of a *Cathedral* in the old time was a very different affair from the setting up of Manchester or any new modern Bishopric.

The Bishop of Moray—often a dignified statesman in the King's Court—sometimes a man of high family and even royal connection, presiding over 24 dignified clergymen of the Province—all bound to residence for a stated period of the year in their college—and a countless number of chaplains, choral vicars, and subordinates of the choir—formed a society of great influence—rivalling, and even counteracting, the warlike element—the rule of the strongest, which prevailed around—introducing a respect for religion and its rites; for peace; for learning, such as then was; for cultivation, of a higher standard than the burghers could otherwise have attained.

The Bishop and Chapter kept up an intercourse with churchmen of their own country and England, from whence they drew their constitution. Many of them travelled to Rome. One Bishop of Moray early founded a college for educating his countrymen at Paris—when Paris was the great University of Europe. Now, setting aside their study and learning—their knowledge of books (they were the sole depositaries of some memory of the great ancients)—setting aside their higher accomplishment—think how their communication with the outer world must have raised them above the rough warriors—the poor serfs who cultivated the fields around their Cathedral. Reflect, too, how that civilization was spread abroad, when the Canons of the Cathedral, each in turn, retired to their rural benefices. When the Dean left his pleasant Deanery—you call it the "*North College*" now—and went to pass his summer months at his "great stone house" of Boath—for so he proudly designated the old *Parsonage House of Aldearn*—still more, when a Canon connected with a Highland Cure, like the Parson of Kingussie, went out of Cathedral residence and returned for his annual sojourn in his Strathspay parish. Be sure they carried with them some report of the events and speculations that were agitating Christendom—rumours of an outer world which could never otherwise penetrate these fastnesses.

So when a Monastery was planted in a rural district,

its effect was something which no event of modern times can give us any conception of. When there was no travelling, no newspapers, no books, no schoolmasters (for the people, I mean), the establishment of a set of Cistercian Monks, brought from some country considerably in advance of their new settlement, was like a revolution. Poor as the monkish education might be in the 13th century, the Monks placed by King David at Kinloss, at Urquhart, at Pluscarden, were as far in advance of the people of Moray, as the most well-appointed University would be now. We know that the Monks were schoolmasters, and first brought some education to the poor—such education as the rude savage could receive—such education, too, as could be given without books. But they taught still more by example. They were the architects, the artizans, the mechanics, the masons and carpenters, the plumbers and glaziers, first of their own fabric—the House of God, which they loved to adorn—and their own cloister—their sheltered walks—their refectory—their cells and sleeping apartments—their fishponds and gardens—their kitchen, too, be sure, with its huge chimney, a comfort for themselves, and fitted for hospitality. They worked for themselves first, and then for all the country round, or such part of the population as could be roused to take advantage of such examples. The monks had not yet become the lazy gluttons which our story-books take care to represent them. Even if they took too much thought of outward things—if they preferred the cultivation of their garden and their farm (that Abbey land of Kinloss was worth cultivating!) to heavenly meditation and penance, neither their poor neighbours, nor we, their successors, had cause to reproach them much. Under their direction, some improvement took place, and the seeds were sown which sprung when circumstances permitted or encouraged their growth.

Now let us leave the 13th century.

Pull the string of our puppet show and see what picture next comes up. Not the grand Bruce and Balliol wars. Not the "crested pride of the first Edward," and the long struggle of poor Scotland, which produced the glory of Bannockburn. That brilliant chapter of our history, so far as regards the north, has been written so carefully and so judiciously, by a member of this Association (Dr. James



Taylor), that I should only spoil his work by touching on it. Let me lead you a little forward, but stopping for one instant to note the changes that time and civilization and even these great wars had brought in our province.

The National patriotic War, interesting all classes, brought them nearer, and bound them in closer ties than had held the noble and the peasant before. If we must have war, it is a great thing to have a good war-cry; and I only hope that Garibaldi's cry of "Italy Independent" may carry his countrymen through their troubles as well as "Scotland and freedom" did the followers of Wallace and Bruce. It is some compensation for the horrors of war, even at the time, to have the ennobling feeling of fighting and suffering for a great and sacred cause. To after generations the agony of the great war of Scotch independence brought yet greater recompense. Believe me that even the blessings of peace and plenty are not the whole of a nation's well-being. It is something to be a nation, to be entitled to cherish national traditions, to be able to look back with pride to the gallant deeds of our forefathers, to sing the songs of our fatherland, and still to call it *ours*. It is to that war we owe it that we are not a mere English county—a less fertile Yorkshire—a larger Wales. We owe to it that we have a national history and national literature.

Pass with me now, if you please, to the year 1457.

Moray was in great excitement in the year 1457. That was the year of the great Douglas *Rebellion*, and when the Rebellion was suppressed, and the Douglasses—one of whom was Archibald Douglas, Earl of Moray—were all slain or forfeited and ruined, the young King James II. determined to give the earldom to his infant son, the Prince David, a Prince who has escaped the notice of our historians. To carry out that resolution, he came down to Moray in person to set the Province in order, and especially to arrange anew the renting of the Earldom lands, which stood as they had done in the days of Randolph. But when he had come down and seen the Spey and the Lossie, lived for a time at Darnaway, Elgin, and Inverness, he felt, as all men have done, the fascination of the country. He ordered his horses to be brought down, and directed certain districts of Earldom lands to be left untilled, for hunting—carefully paying, however,

the damage to the tenants—or rather abandoning all rent for those years. He chose Darnaway as his hunting-seat, and completed the repairs of Randolph's hall there, begun by the Douglasses. But he had taste to like Elgin and its cultivated society of dignified churchmen. He sometimes took the hospitality of the Bishop (John Winchester, an old and faithful servant of the Crown) at Spynie; sometimes dwelt in the Manse of Duffus, the residence of his own kinsman, David Stuart, parson of Duffus—then employed in renting the Earldom, afterwards himself Bishop, and remembered as builder of the magnificent great Tower of Spynie. While the King stayed in the Manse of Duffus an accidental fire took place, which did some damage to his Majesty's simple plenishing. But besides the mischief from the fire, it is evident he found the Manse too small for the accommodation of a Court, for we find in the Exchequer accounts of that year, the expense allowed of building a new kitchen at the Manse of Duffus, in Elgin, while the King dwelt there. It stood, you know, till quite lately, when the picturesque old Mansion, which had received a King and his little Court, was pulled down to make way for the comfortable square box which is now occupied by Mr. Allan.

And now for another very long jump—over quite two centuries—not for want of materials of interest, but want of room and time. I could tell you how King James IV. paid a visit to *Innes*, in one of his northern Pilgrimages, in 1490. Then, what curious local history does Moray afford in the early stages of the Reformation, when the stout old reprobate Bishop Hepburn would have nothing to do with their new-fangled ways, but shut the gates of his Castle of Spynie against the Lords of the Congregation, and set the Reformation at defiance! Then poor Queen Mary came across Spey, and left the interest which attaches to every place where she set her foot. Her brother, "the good Regent," was your Earl, but he had little time for his own affairs, and I don't find him much in Moray. Not so his widow, Annas Keith (daughter of Keith Marshall). While she managed the affairs of her daughters, even after her second marriage to Argyll, she was often here—dwelling at Darnaway, or at Elgin—keeping up great state, but kindly and neighbourly with the gentry around. Still, later down, in the days of the



Covenant, the Moray barons were active on the Covenant side, with the successive lairds of Innes at their head. But all that I must pass, and must carry you with me, if I may, down to later scenes.

Most of you know that I am more than half an Elgin man myself. My grandfather lived at the *West Port*, now called *West Park*.\* My father was born there, and always assured me, I am sure quite honestly, that the nectarines and apricoks (he spelt the word with a *k*, not in the modern way), on the open wall there, were better than any that grew elsewhere. Most of my old Morayshire knowledge is from my father, who lived to be an old man, and the reports of his recollections enables me to speak of more than a century. He inherited some lands to the east of the town, and I well remember his description of the yearly scouring of the deep ditches, and the care that required to be taken of the embankments of the Lossie. He told me of the fresh-water mussels that sometimes yielded pearls—of the fat eels, which the poorest labourers refused to eat—(perhaps they know better now.) He told me that the Highlanders who came down in

\* *West Park* is now the property of the Hon. Lewis A. Grant, youngest son of the late Francis William, Earl of Seafield, who changed the Entrance to the Grounds and greatly improved the House.

It was here where the WEST PORT of the Burgh stood, and where the heads, arms, &c., of felons were spiked.

Andrew M'Pherson, a Deserter, was the last Culprit who was thus served, for the Murder of John Gatherer, Farmer, Netherbyre, Pluscarden, in 1713.

*The West Port* stood right across the High Street near the kitchen-gate of *West Park*. Francis Russell, Advocate, finding this old Entrance to the City to be in his way, pulled it down one night or morning in Oct. 1783, and built his *Park* walls with the stones. For this unwarrantable act the Magistrates and Council resolved to prosecute their *Ruling Elder* before the Court of Justiciary along with the workmen he employed. In 1785 the dispute was hushed up, and *the West Port* was irrevocable. At this period, a line of boulders, called "the crown of the causeway," extended from *the West Port* to *the Little Cross*, upon which the people walked in wet weather. There were no drains but open gutters, with every deposit unveiled to eye and nose. (Ed.)

bands to shear his harvest at Leuchars and Dunkinty, used generally to take home with them a shaking ague from the marshy land. When I told that to my friend, Dr. Simpson of Edinburgh, he said, "Ah, we have driven out the ague! That is one of the diseases we have eradicated. There is no intermittent fever now in Scotland." If it be so—with all deference for Dr. Simpson—with all honour to his noble profession—I must say we owe that victory more to the farmer with his draining tiles than to the doctor with his quinine.

My father had a proverb—is it still current among you?—"Speak weel o' the Hielands, but live in the laigh!" He had a very confident opinion of the superiority of the Climate and Soil of Moray, to anything else in all the world; and when he had migrated to a half-Highland Estate on Deeside, he used to deplore the early frosts that mildewed his barley on the haughs, and cut down the autumn growth of his young oaks by the burn side, before the wood was ripened. Some of his young experience serves to illustrate the change of manners. My grandfather had many transactions with the then Gordon of Cluny, which produced some intimacy between the families. Cosmo Gordon, the eldest son, the heir of a good fortune, was bred to the Bar, and lived to be a Baron of Exchequer. Charles, the second, was a Writer to the Signet, in Edinburgh, and took my father as apprentice in his office. Notwithstanding some difference of age, the young men were great friends; and, several seasons, Cosmo Gordon, the young councillor, and John Innes, the apprentice, travelled to Edinburgh in company. Both rode the journey on horseback, as all men did—but "with a difference." The advocate and heir-apparent of Cluny, rode his own horse, and his groom followed, mounted on another. My father rode a horse, hired from a stable in Elgin, which carried him and his saddle-bags, in five or six days to Kinghorn; and a bare-footed boy (the stabler's servant), ran at his foot, to care for the beast, and to take him back from the Ferry. That was more common than "riding post," and was esteemed safer—the post-horse of the stages having an indifferent character for soundness. The road was by Huntly—"the Sowie"—Alford—Cutties-hillock—the Cairn-o'-month—and so forth. Pleasant journeys, believe me, they were, for two young men



with life opening before them! and my informant never lost his love for the primitive rural hostelry, where country luxuries were so good, and the known hostess received you with a familiar, almost motherly welcome.

From my remembrance of my father's conversation, and from a great mass of my grandfather's letters; from Mr. Robert Young's notes—(helped by some Papers which my friend Captain Dunbar has dug out of the Charter-Room at Duffus)—I will try to describe Elgin and its Neighbourhood, the Town and the Country, in the beginning of last Century, say 150 years ago. And first,

Join me in a walk from end to end of your Town, and I will try to represent it as it stood in the beginning of last Century—only 150 years ago! Leaving *Gray's Hospital* behind us, we enter old Elgin by the *West Port*, under an arch or *port*, like that still preserved at the *Pans Port*.\* Adjoining to that *Gateway*, on the south side of the street, was the house of my grandfather, Robert Innes, styling himself *merchant in Elgin*. It stood on a large and very good garden, quite retired from the noise of the street—a comfortable old mansion, I assure you. I could tell you some stories of its hospitality, and of the claret drunk there, but I must pass on. I believe the Hon. Lewis Grant, the present proprietor, wished to keep up the old House, but the walls were found too much decayed to be saved.

Nearly opposite, reposing at the foot of "the bonny Lady-hill," stood *the Mansion of the Martins of Morieston*—a warm, sheltered, sunny spot. The family was of good estimation, but they and their House have alike passed away.

Still on the north side of the street, a little to the east

\* *The Eastern Gate*, called THE WATER-GATE, or *Paun's* or PANS PORT, or *Bishop's Gate*, still stands at the north-east corner of *South College*. The meadow-land lying east of PANS PORT is termed "Pannis" in the oldest deeds, and seems to be an abbreviation of *Pannagium*, a meadow or pasture land.

A venerable *beech tree*, having large trunk and venerable branches, probably planted by some now unknown ecclesiastic, still adorns these precincts. This PORT had an iron *Portcullis*, the groove for which is still to be seen. In 1857, the trustees of the Earl of Fife substantially repaired this only remaining original entrance to the Cathedral. (ED.)

of Murdoch's Wynd, *an old half ruinous House* is still standing, which has seen better days. Of old, it belonged to the Dunbars of Hillhead, then to James Stephen, Provost of Elgin, who married a daughter of Sir Harry Innes of Innes, latterly to a Family of Duffus, who still possess it.

On the south side of the street—on the site of the Caledonian Bank Office—stood a fine old Mansion, built on squat pillars and arches, known to most of you as "*Elchies House*."\* It was built about 1670 by George Cumming, Provost of Elgin, or William Cumming of Achry, his son, who dwelt there at the time we are examining. From him it passed to the first William King of Newmill, who married Margaret Cumming, the Provost's daughter, and it was only at the close of last century that it passed from the Newmill family to Robert Grant of Elchies, who added a couple of handsome rooms, and, I suppose, gave it the name of "*Elchies House*." Later, it was Miss Shand's boarding-school, and, last of all, it made way for the bank. I think there are several views of it engraved.

On the same side of the street, a little to the eastward, stood the Mansion which was latterly known as *Thunderton House*. It was the town-residence of the Earls of Moray, after the *Castle on Lady-hill* was disused and ruined, and earlier, perhaps, of the hereditary Sheriffs—the Dunbars of Westfield. It passed into the possession of the Lords Duffus in 1653, but they fell into poverty long before their forfeiture, and this Mansion passed from them to the Dunbars of Newton and Northfield, now of Duffus. It was a very fine specimen of town-house, and partook of the ornaments of several periods. The old part of the building which still stands was built, I suppose, by the Earls; the western front, with its fine balustraded tower—the balusters in shape of their names, "*Sutherland*"—by the Lords Duffus. The rooms were large, and the cornices and ceilings much ornamented. One cornice still remains. In the gardens were included orchards and a bowling green—one of the luxuries of our rather lazy ancestors. When the body of the first Duke of Gordon (who died at Leith in 1716) was brought down

\*This House had open piazzas, which were common during the 17th century. (ED.)



to be buried in the Cathedral here, his son, Duke Alexander, borrowed *Thunderton House*, as the one in Elgin most suitable for the ceremonial of his interment—including, no doubt, the funeral banquet—and prayed the Lady Thunderton to take some trouble in arranging the solemn hospitalities. At the close of last century the house was occupied by Alexander Brodie, Esq., of Arnhall, father of Elizabeth [and wherein Her Grace was born] the Duchess of Gordon, who lived in great style, and had a large establishment, with horses and hounds; but the fine old House, like everything old and venerable in Elgin, was doomed. In 1800, the late Sir Archibald Dunbar sold the property to John Batchen. It has since been a Haldanite Church, a furniture wareroom, a preaching station, and a windmill! The curious balustraded tower was then pulled down; and it requires careful inspection now, among the mean and crowded lanes that press upon it, to distinguish the ciphers and heraldic bearings of the Earls, Sheriffs, and Lords, that once dwelt there.

The Chapel, built in its garden, is the same which went through such a brilliant career of occupants, and at last blazed off in such a bright final conflagration, last year.\*

On the opposite side of the High Street—at the top of what is now North Street—stood a stately old mansion, Calder House, with turrets to the street, the property of successive generations of the Calders, Baronets of Muirtown. When they went down, the house and large garden, reaching back to where the Episcopal Chapel now is, became the property of Lawrence Sutherland of Green-

\* Capt. Dunbar-Dunbar, in his interesting "Social Life in Former Days," p. 282, says:—"It was, we believe, originally known as *the King's House*. In 1601, it belonged to the three daughters of the deceased James Dunbar of Westfield (as heirs of their father and of their great grandfather, Sir Alex. Dunbar, Sheriff of Moray), and was designated *the Sheriff's House*."

At the back entrance were two savages cut in stone, which were removed to the Priory of Pluscarden, where they now are.

In the spring of 1746, a few weeks before the Battle of Culloden, "Prince Charlie" slept several nights at this Mansion, at that time inhabited by *Lady Arradoul*, eldest daughter of Dunbar of Thunderton, who was shrouded and buried in the sheets which the Prince slept in, according to her dying orders. (Ed.)

hall, and, in the latter part of last century, was occupied by the famous Dr. Alex. Dougall.\*

Adjoining it, where *the North of Scotland Bank* now stands, stood *Drummuir House*—a large edifice on low pillars and arcades, after the approved Elgin manner. It came through Dunbars, Kings, Sir Archibald Campbell of Clunes (a man well known at Cawdor), to Robert Duff of Drummuir, who married Sir Archibald's daughter Isabella. Then it was sold to the Trades of Elgin. Last of all to one of the numerous banks that now adorn our streets, and I hope, "Scatter plenty o'er the smiling land."

On the same side was a *House* which was built about the year 1619 [1669 ?], and belonged for about a century to a *Family of Donaldson*.† It then passed through the hands of Kenneth Mackenzie, surgeon-apothecary, a well-known man in his day, and some Dunbars, Duffs, and

\* *The Assembly Rooms*, chiefly erected by the Trinity Lodge of Freemasons in 1821, at a cost of £3000, occupy the site of *Calder House*. The only remnants of it preserved are the two carved door-posts in the grounds of William Young, Ladyhill. This House, after it had ceased to be habitable, long remained as a desolate ruin, and had the reputation of being haunted. As often as the unsatiable desire of urchins led them to enter its portals and advance a few steps up the narrow stair, have their hearts fainted, as some gush of wind coming in hollow sough, arrested their course, and compelled them to retreat ere they had dared to peep into the dark kitchen. Here, it was believed, a boiling cauldron was constantly on the fire, and an arm-chair before it, to entice the wayfarer; when, no sooner had he sat down, than some invisible machinery tilted up the chair and threw the occupant into the enticing broth-pot. In another chamber, the apparition of Nelly Homeless was heard to patter patter up the long winding dark stair, give three knocks at the door, and unforbidden enter with grim unearthly look, with great gash in her breast, imploring back again her *lichts* and liver, before she could get rest in her lonely grave. Medical practitioners then got the repute of doing sad things to the dead in nightly and secret labours. *Calder House* is said to have been built in 1669.

† *Donaldson's House*, now down, and the site occupied by shops, had a bartizan on the top; and stones still kept, bear J. D. J. M. 1699, i.e., James Donaldson and his spouse Jean Mackean. In Lossie Wynd, within a Court, there is, on a large mantelpiece, built by the same, J. D. J. M. 1689. (Ed.)



Ritchies. It has never been a great Mansion, but as it now stands, is the prettiest of the old Elgin Houses they have left us.

Next, we come to a House with a stair tower, marked repeatedly with the date of 1634 and the arms of Leslie of Rothies, and distinguished by the *Iron Cross* at the top, which marks the houses held under the Knights of St. John. The old titles are lost, and I cannot tell you what Leslies dwelt there in 1700 (the time we are trying to look back upon). Alexander Forsyth, merchant in Elgin, bought it in 1744. I have lately heard that he was a personal friend, at any rate, an admirer, of Dr. Isaac Watts, the great English non-conformist divine, and named his son after him. We all knew and loved *Isaac Forsyth*,\* the late possessor of that quaint old edifice, and many of you can remember when he had a bookselling shop there, where he established a library, issued several excellent works of local history, and made it the centre of literature for the city and county. That venerable old man would have loved to help me in my present undertaking.

Mr. Billings gives an admirable Plate of "street architecture at Elgin":—When the wanderer has entered the town itself, he will find himself surrounded by objects that might occupy his pencil or his pen for weeks. Besides the grand mass of the Cathedral, and the clustered castellated remains of its Close, every street and turning presents some curious quaint architectural peculiarity, from the graceful gothic arches of the *Maison Dieu* to the old grey burgher's house, sticking its narrow crow-stepped gable, and all its fantastic, irregular, blinking little windows, into the centre of the street. Many decorated niches, let in to abrupt corners, now tenantless, mark the spots where once stood the image of the Virgin and the lamp, to arrest the notice of the passer-by; an indication of the great antiquity of the street architecture of Elgin. In many cases the houses are ranged in the old French manner, round square court-yards communi-

\* Isaac Forsyth died on the 17th May, 1859, æt. 90. He bought the property from his niece, Ann Forsyth, wife of Adam Longmore of the Exchequer, Edinburgh.

A slater, in his wisdom, tore up the *Jerusalem Cross* as being an encumbrance, when repairing the roof. (ED.)

cating with the street by low heavy-browed arches. A large number of the houses are supported on colonnades, the designs of which have considerable merit, especially in that character of massiveness which seems to adapt the pillar and arch to bear the superincumbent weight. From this feature, some of the streets of Elgin remind one of those of Berne; but they are still more quaint, fantastic, and venerable looking than those of the gloomy Swiss city. Never having had either manufactures or trade, Elgin has changed little in the course of a century or two; while, as the centre of a rich agricultural district, with its clubs and county meetings, it has had enough of vitality to save it from total decay by the removal of its ecclesiastical honours. It is inhabited by a considerable number of people with good connexions and small incomes, who naturally surround themselves with the attributes of modest elegance and comfort. (*The Baronial and Ecclesiastical Antiquities of Scotland*, by Robert William Billings, Architect, vol. II.).

This includes *Isaac Forsyth's* tower, and a picturesque old house on piazzas, which has been removed since the date of that work—such is the rapid pace of demolition among you! That *House* belonged successively to Cramonds, Mills, Captain Peter Innes, Charleses, Hay of Edintore, and lastly to Mr. Anderson, who pulled it down, and has built a very fine new house and shop on the site.

A little to the eastward, a large old House still stands, covered with grey slates, once the property of Thomas Stephen, Provost of Elgin, with whose daughter it passed to Miln of Milnfield.

Now, cross *Lossie Wynd*, and, still keeping the north side of the High Street, at the corner stood a fine old *House* with a double roof and a bartizan. The property of old extended from the High Street to the back of the burgh at the north, the northern part being a fine garden. Very early, it belonged to Annand of Morriston; then, before 1600, to Alexander Innes of Coxton. Near a century later (1669) Sir Alexander Innes of Coxton, with consent of George Innes, minister of Premnay, disposed it to James Donaldson, merchant, ancestor of the respectable family who took their style from the pretty little Estate of Kinnairdy on the Dovorn. The last laird of



that family married Anne Innes, daughter of Sir James of Coxton (1777), who lived to be old, and is yet remembered as a perfect specimen of a stately lady of the old school.

Over the way, on the site of the present *Court House*,\* stood the *House of the Family of Anderson of Linkwood*, a race of most respectable burghers—lawyers—sheriff-clerks—commissary clerks—often provosts of the burgh—the first of whom was in the employment of the famous Sir George Mackenzie, King's Advocate in the reign of Charles II., who gave him some lands in Pluscarden.

Passing by the *House* with the mysterious and unexplained name of "*Lady High House*,"† we come on the north side of the street, to an old House originally built on arcades, just opposite *the Little Cross*. It was occupied as a place of business by William Duff of Dipple, father of William first Earl of Fife. The late Mr. William Young used to report the tradition that, while carrying on business here, Dipple bought the Estate of Coxton at what people ignorantly thought a very high price—so high that the Knight of Coxton celebrated the event by an entertainment which was not temperate, and very noisy. Dipple, in the evening, as he was shutting up his office, heard the noise of the riotous feast, and asked the cause. They told him it was Coxton rejoicing with his friends at the price he had got for his land. "Poor fellow!" said Dipple, "he is as well pleased at parting with his inheritance as I am at getting it." William Duff of Dipple died in 1722.

\* *The Court House and Jail* were erected in 1842. Elizabeth, the last Duchess of Gordon, heired it through her aunts, and sold it to the Magistrates of Elgin for the above uses. (ED.)

† *Our Lady High House* suggests its dedication to the B. V. Mary. In 1546, Sir Thomas Ragg was one of the chaplains in S. Giles, and also taught a school in this house. This same year the Murrays of Fochaberis, by deed disposed it to James Innes of Crombie. From 1770 till 1812 it was possessed by the Andersons of Linkwood, who sold it to Alexander Brodie of Arnhall, and was occupied by his sisters, the Misses Brodie of Spynie. Elizabeth, the last Duchess of Gordon (the only child of Brodie of Arnhall), heired this house after the death of her aunts, and in 1835 sold the subjects to Provost Grant, who, in 1840, sold them to Provost Russell, who erected on the site buildings for a printing office and abode. (ED.)

I am sorry I must not detain you with an account of that most worthy family of your citizens, *the Kings of Newmill*, who acquired the Greyfriars, many canons' crofts, the lands of Newmill, and Pans, and were peculiarly an Elgin burgh family, and an honour to the burgh.

The Huntly Family had a residence in Elgin, at *the head of the College*, not now to be traced. My ancestors, *the Innesses of Dunkinty*, lived in that old House which stood till lately at the corner of *Grant Lodge gardens*. You know it in Mr. Rhind's "*Sketches of Moray*." After my forebears succeeded to Leuchars, it was uninhabited, and it was rather ruinous even before it was acquired by the Seafield Family, who pulled it down a few years ago. I used to admire the gables of the dormer windows, decorated with coats of arms, the remains of the old hangings of stamped Spanish leather, and the little concealed oratory, where the family, zealous Non-jurors, could keep their service-books and say their prayers in times of trouble. The entrance was from the west, at the end of the Gardens of Elgin, entering at the foot of Lossie Wynd.

At the beginning of last century the interesting *old College Dwellings* had of course all passed into lay hands. The *Bishop's Town Palace*—the work of that great architect the Chancellor Lord Dunfermline—was then in the Gordon Family.

*The North College*—the house standing where the Dean's residence was, and preserving some of its walls—includes in its gardens and grounds the residences or manses of the canons of Botarie, Inverkeithny, the Treasurer's, Croy, the Chancellor's—as well as the Deanery. It was for a time the *town house* of the Dunbars of Burgie, and was acquired by the Family of Robertson, its present proprietors, about a century ago. The lands of Deanshaugh, with the Dovecot, were of old attached to the Deanery, and the Lossie, which now separates them, seems to have run much to the north of its present channel.

[*The Manse of Duffus*, as old as the 15th century, in the College of Elgin, was pulled down about 48 years ago. A good sketch of the quaint house, with corner square turret, is given in Rhind's *Sketches of Moray*. It stood on the east corner of King Street. King James II. found lodging for himself and small court in this little mansion.



His kinsman David Stuart (then Parson of Duffus, and afterwards Bishop of Moray), was absent at the time on some embassy, when the kitchen of the Manse accidentally took fire, and was re-built at the King's expense. The house was long the possession of the Family of King of Newmill, then of Captain Stewart, who sold it to Peter Brown of Linkwood, who built on the stance the abode, now the property of John Allan.

Equally good etchings of *Unthank Manse*, *Mantelpiece*, and *Arms* of the Duffus Family quartered on the Manse, are given in Rhind's *Sketches*. On the mantelpiece in large figures, is the date 1679 (not 1670 as given in Young's *Annals of Elgin*, page 395), with the initials W.B. I O on either side, and fierce erect Lion-Supporters. These fine jambs are now at one of the garden-gates at Gordonstown House.

*Unthank Manse* was also purchased by the above Mr. Peter Brown, who built thereupon the domicile occupied by John Kerr, Inspector of Schools, and now possessed by Mrs. M'William.] (ED.)

The *Sub-dean's House* is that inherited by the Hon. G. S. Duff, from the Hon. George Duff of Milton, son of Wiliam, first Earl of Fife. None of the original building remains, but the massy precinct wall of the Cathedral runs to the south of the garden; and with its fine old trees, it formed the pleasant quiet residence which Charles St. John so much loved. All that we call *King Street* was occupied by the residences and gardens of the Canons of old. *Duffus Manse*, the picturesque old Mansion where King James II. kept his court, is now Mr. Allan's; *Unthank Manse*, Sheriff Cameron's. A hundred and fifty years ago, these and many other mansions of good burghers—of country gentry of Moray and Banff—lined your High Street on both sides—affording covered walks almost from end to end, with their low arcades or "piazzas." The foot pavement did not then project into the street, and perhaps the "causey" was not so clean in its every-day state as it is now. But on days of state or holidays, and, of old, on occasions of Church-processions, a great cleansing and ornamenting took place. Then think how the centre of the spacious street was occupied, at the time of our visit—the beginning of last century.

First—and just on the site of the modern fountain—

stood, during all last century, the *Jail and Burgh Court-House*. It was built only about the beginning of the century, in room of a former and more humble Tolbooth. There was not much architectural merit in the fabric, but it was quaint and characteristic.

Next there was the "*Muckle Kirk*"—the venerable and most ancient *Church of St. Giles*—the *Parish Church of Elgin*; a place so ancient, so venerable, so mixed up with the history and tradition of the city, that one might have expected it to have been spared, if anything were to remain of old Elgin. It stood just where the *new Church* stands; and of old was surrounded by its cemetery, in which among later graves must have stood the elaborate Monument of primeval Christianity, now placed for safety in the Cathedral, which was found in levelling the street near the Church. Probably only the *lower walls of the Muckle Kirk* were of high antiquity. The roof and the upper part of the fabric fell in 1679, on a Sunday, after service; but it was re-built somewhat in the old manner, and so continued till 1828. Do the Bailies and the "Trades" fill the eye as well in their fine new Church as when dear William Hay sang of their glories in that ghostly old fabric?

The "*Little Kirk*," though separated, and made of late to open eastward, was originally the Choir of the great Church of St. Giles.

Where you may still see the *paving stones* of the street laid in the form of a cross, stood the "*Muckle Cross*." What its ancient form and structure were, we do not know. That which stood there all last century was a hexagonal Pillar of dressed ashlar, 12 feet high, and large enough to contain a spiral stair. Around its base was a stone seat. From the top of the pillar rose a shaft of stone, surmounted by the Scotch Lion Rampant, and the initials (C. R.) of King Charles II.

The *Little Cross*, I suppose, is not much changed in a century and a half. It is one of that kind of which we have finer specimens at Kinneddar, at Duffus, and other Moray Churches; but from its situation, this of Elgin is liable to injuries, and the shaft may have been renewed.

[The *Muckle Cross* was removed about 86 years ago for being an obstruction. It was a poor specimen of archi-



ture, consisting of a small hexagonal roofless apartment in which the *loons* used to stow sticks and other collections for the annual bonfire on the King's Birthday. This chamber was carefully guarded with an oak door. A freestone column similar to that of the *Little Cross* shot up from the centre, surmounted with the Scottish lion rampant with crown and cross. The latter is placed on the South College garden wall.

The *Little Cross* still remains entire in its original position. It has four circular steps or pediments, from which rises a round slender Ionic Monolith about 15 feet high, topped by a sun dial, upon which is cut the arms of the city. The summit has three small iron rods, one perpendicular and two crossways, indicating the four points of the compass. A correct etching is given in Rhind's *Sketches of Moray*, p. 57. Alexander, 3rd son of the Lord of the Isles, with his captains, on the 3rd July, 1402, plundered the Chanonry of Elgin: and on the 6th Oct., the same year, on due contrition, was absolved by William Spynie, Bishop of Moray, before the doors of the Church, and then before the High Altar. He and his troopers also paid as penance a sum of money, with part of which a *Cross* was erected where the Chanonry begins. This is reckoned to be where the *Little Cross* stands and has stood for nearly 800 years—not certainly the present superstructure. From the Town Council Minutes of the 1st April, 1867, the *Little Cross* being in a ruinous and dilapidated state, and threatening to fall, was ordered to be repaired.

In the Burgh Records of 1542, there is a reference to a Cross at the east end of the town, but as it is there called a *tree*, it was necessarily of wood.

In Rhind's *Sketches*, an etching is given at page 57 of a House near the Little Cross of the old burgh architecture, yet in good preservation, erected on piazzas. The original possessors are not known. It bears the date 1694, and the initials I. D. above the windows. It is said that it was occupied as a place of business by William Duff of Dipple, father of William 1st Earl of Fife, when he resided in Elgin from 1703 to 1722, at which latter date he died. It is a fact that Mr. Duff had a mortgage upon it for 800 merks between 1709 and 1716. It afterwards passed to the family of Anderson of Linkwood, and from them, in

1769, to Patrick Duff, Town Clerk of Elgin, grandfather of the late Town Clerk. He was called *Little Clerk Duff*, in contradistinction to Archibald Duff of Bilbohall, who was called the *Muckle Clerk*. At a time of political excitement, a bullet was fired in at the middle window, and struck the wall of the apartment near the bed where the *Little Clerk* and his wife were lying. From the Duffs, the house was transferred to Sir James Grant of Grant.] (ED.)

I pray you not to be alarmed when I mention the *Cathedral*. I have no intention of inflicting an archæological treatise upon you. Just one word of explanation. You know that the early Bishops of Moray had no fixed seat, making their Cathedral sometimes at *Birnie* (where much of their structure of the 12th century still remains), sometimes at *Spynie* or *Kinneddar*. But at length, in 1224, Bishop Andrew de Moravia settled his Episcopal See permanently at the *Church of the Holy Trinity* beside Elgin. That little primeval Church quite disappeared, and the existing Cathedral may be safely said to date from that year. No doubt the Cathedral was burnt by the Wolf of Badenoch in 1390, and perhaps suffered by fire again in 1402, when another noble Savage spoiled, burnt, and plundered a great part of the town and canonry. But I would have you know that burning of a Church or Castle in those times did not imply a destruction to the foundation. Most commonly the massive walls resisted the hurried scorching of the spoiler, and certainly this was so in Elgin. The architecture proves it beyond any question. And then those old churchmen made their repairs with such taste and feeling—refusing none of the improvements of their own day, but adapting their new work to the original style, so that the very changes which a skilled eye detects in the periods of architecture are considered, and really are, beauties.

I must not pass by without noticing the *Monastic Foundations* of which some vestiges remain.

The *Dominicans* or *Black-friars*, or *Friars Preachers*, had a House founded by King Alexander II., about 1233, which stood in a field called *Borrowbriggs*, now scarcely to be traced, owing to the changing of the bed of Lossie. It was not far from our friend Mr. Grigor's house, at the *Haugh*. The place no doubt inherits its hospi-



talities, as well as its beautiful flowers, from the old Friars!

There was a *Convent of Franciscans, Minorites, or Grey Friars*, at Elgin, endowed as early as 1281, when it is described as "near the Cathedral church." Could that be the place which we know as the Greyfriars, or is this a later foundation? The architecture of that beautiful Ruin is plainly of the 15th century. It has been supposed that the older House—that described as "near the Cathedral church"—occupied the site of Mr. Cooper's house and garden, where some ancient foundations and vaults below, were visible until lately.

I think there were no *Nunneries* in Elgin.

The society of Elgin was very different at the beginning of last century from what it is now. You observe, a good many country families lived in the town, some preferring it to their country homes—at least in winter; others, like the Laird of Dunkinty, having no dwelling-houses on their estates. The last Dunkinty who inhabited that old house close to the North College, was one of the last survivors of that society. Though he was my granduncle—and there is said to be a family resemblance—I beg to state that he was a very good-looking old gentleman. His picture hangs in my dining-room, in full powdered wig and *chapeau bras*. You know it is a small property, for he did not live to inherit Leuchars; but the old man drove about the town, and out to Calcotts, in his coach and pair, chiefly to prove his gentility. I think when I came here as Sheriff, my friend, Mr. Cameron, showed me the old Dunkinty coach, with its once splendid gilt nails and corners, converted into a summer house in an inn garden.

Among all that class there was a good deal of society—a very genuine, hearty hospitality—a kindly welcome—a full table, and at least enough of that wine which was to be had pretty cheap, paying no odious duties. But to tell the truth, the great enjoyment of the gentry at that time was not in domestic parties. When men found their days tedious, and longed for something to stir the blood, they did not assemble their friends at the board of a stately dame, with lappets, and hoop, and high-heeled shoes. They met at a tavern—the *British Arms*, or Mrs. Crombie's—and drank till the cares and sorrows of life

were forgotten. Or, if they were not fortunate enough to be in Elgin, half a dozen neighbour gentlemen would make a tryst at Findhorn, or still oftener at the little solitary alehouse on the Muir, where Lucky Lightfoot supplied them with pure, cheap claret (it might well be cheap!) and where the want of ceremony and the homeliness of everything around, gave it a zest which it wanted in their own castles. You must not imagine they were habitual drunkards, or even in the habit of drinking a glass of wine daily. The men were fine gentlemen, I assure you, though the young fellows swore a little, bragged a little of their five bottles at a sitting, and other peccadilloes which we think better to hide. Some of the pictures of our forefathers of that time show a quantity of lace at breast and wrist—a powdering of periwig, and smart cock of hat—that must have rendered it horribly inconvenient to be caught out in such a gale as blew down our valley on the 3rd of this month. The expense of that dress was monstrous. Sir Richard Steele's black periwig, we know, cost him forty guineas, and to maintain such a head-piece in curl and beauty was no trifle. Do you remember the elegant Lovelace (the lady-killer of Richardson's imagination) lamenting his wig and his linen dabbled with hoar-frost when he had been exposed to the cold in keeping an assignation?

The rich and somewhat tawdry dress of the men was the folly of the time—not of the country. I only wish you to observe that our ancestors in the North were not exempt from the fashionable follies of their day. Indeed, I don't find that they were much addicted to out-door occupations. I find no letters of enthusiastic farming and planting, no passion for sport, no fishing, and very little of shooting—only a grey-hound or two were kept about a house for killing hares, and frequently lent from hand to hand. You will find that the men then were less accustomed to that hardy exercise which begins with us at school, and lasts as long as health and strength will allow.

The ladies were more stay-at-home than their grand-daughters; many of them, ladies of quality or fortune, never left Moray after returning from the boarding-school in Edinburgh. They were not for the most part accomplished, in our sense of the word. A slender knowledge



of music, playing on the harpsichord or the viol-de-gamba, and a sort of sampler embroidery—not so conveniently easy as our modern ladies' work—formed the whole. They went to church, or to the Non-Juring Chapel, but were not much addicted to theological study—the age for that had gone by. They didn't read much; indeed, books were very few, and the taste for them confined to two or three families. But then they were notable housewives—the Countess of Moray and the Lady of Gordon Castle vieing with the Squires' wives in the mysteries of the kitchen and the comforts of good housekeeping.\*

\* I can call to mind a good many ladies of Moray who made an impression on society in their time, and have left a memory behind them:—

1. ANNAS KEITH, Countess of Moray and Argyll, who filled a large sphere in this county for a time, managing the properties of both earldoms. Her house at Darnaway, and her "lodging" in Edinburgh, were resorted to as a little court by Moray men, by all of whom she was beloved for her own qualities of masculine sense and kindness, and revered as the wife and widow of the "Good Regent."

2. HENRIETTA STUART, daughter of the Earl of Moray, wife of Sir Hugh Campbell of Cawdor, was a notable housekeeper and careful economist, learned in the qualities of tea and chocolate, and of great taste in "napery." She was long remembered as a good neighbour and amiable lady. Her books were a thought too Puritanical for the present taste; but among "Sighs from Hell," and "Rutherford's Letters," are placed "Hodder's Arithmetic," and "Speed's Husbandry," together with a treatise on "Psalmistry."

3. The Mordaunt DUCHESS OF GORDON, wife of the second Duke, who changed the religion of the family *for a consideration*—and, during a long widowhood, managed her affairs and those of her children with great vigilance and the skill of a man of business, and yet was a universal favourite.

4. MARY SLEIGH, was the English wife of the Laird of Brodie—the laird who was long Lord Lyon, and was universally known in Scotland as "The Lyon"—a very popular leading man in Moray, though Lord Lovat, who didn't love him, called him the "king of beasts." I imagine his wife was an heiress. At any rate she was allowed to manage and spend liberally. She attended to farming as well as housewifery, and directed, herself, the breeding of her horses, &c. She was also an early planter of hardwood. I have noticed a present

I don't find that the ladies attended to the garden or cared for flowers. The only exception I can name is Kilravock. But the gentlemen in and round Elgin, and indeed all through Moray, were fond of gardening, and we must not censure them if in their eyes the fruit-garden and the orchard took precedence of the flower-border. They inherited that taste from the Monks of Pluscarden and Kinloss, who may have admired a clove-gilly flower, but gave their whole hearts to the produce of their pear trees.

It may be worth recording that the excellent Robert

she made to the Laird of Kilravock, in 1750, of fifty beech plants—probably those which now adorn “the birch-ward” at Kilravock, and the charming bank of Coulmony. The tradition of the country is, that she was the great planter and ornament of Brodie; and, moreover, that she planted (and protected) that double hedgerow of ashes which still, at intervals, shades the high road from the Hardmuir to Forres. I wish she had left more imitators.

5. MRS. ELIZABETH ROSE of Kilravock, a lady admirable in more ways than I can find room for in this note. She was the first very literary lady in the North, but her literature was not her greatest recommendation. In conversation she was always animated and natural, full of genuine humour, and keen and quick perception of the ludicrous. She has been described as the leader of all cheerful amusements, the humorous storyteller, the clever mimic, the very soul of society. She was a good musician, and very fond of music. Those were her surface accomplishments. She was the most ardent of friends, benevolent, hospitable, kind and generous beyond her means, zealously religious, without parade, ever anxious to help forward humble talent.

6. If it were not too near her own time, I should like to place here a memorial of Miss MADDY MACPHERSON, the “Queen of Forres,” as she was called. I do not think she has left so good and characteristic a specimen of the Highland lady behind her. Without any superfluous education, she had a consciousness of Highland gentry—never found herself unfit for the society of the highest and most cultivated. Her knowledge of her countrymen was very accurate, and she communicated it in the pleasantest way. With good broad humour, and a play of satire quite free from malice, she made her drawing-room a pleasant place of resort for all comers, while to her friends she was ever hospitable, kind, and cordial.



Reid, Abbot of Kinloss, afterwards Bishop of Orkney, among other schemes for civilising his house, brought to Kinloss from Dieppe a French gardener, named Guillaume Lubias, very skilful in planting and grafting fruit-trees, who, writes the chronicler of the Abbey, "executed many works in the Abbey garden and round the place, and indeed through all Moray, most useful and worthy of observation." I have heard from that authority, which I have quoted so often, that when, 100 years ago, the last of the old pear trees of Kinloss were blown down in a storm, it was found that they had been under-paved with flat flag-stones, after the most approved manner of modern orchard cultivation—a manner which we moderns, with our usual vanity, had declared to be an invention unknown to the old gardeners. Some papers at Kilravock show that the makers of that good old garden got some of their trees from Kinloss, while the finer kinds came from Normandy.

The gardens of Kinloss, (the nursery of gardening, and teacher to all Moray) have left worthy successors; and I doubt if the Monks, at their best, grew better apples and pears than the present Laird of Kinloss and his brother, the Baronet of Duffus. I am sure they never even dreamed of such carnations and asters as our friend, Mr. Grigor, grows in his little garden at the Haugh.

At the time we are speaking of—remember it is 150 years ago—Elgin must have been a comfortable place to live in as regards *vivres*. There is a certificate very formally issued by two worshipful Justices of the Peace, Sir Thomas Calder of Muirton, Bart., and Robert Dunbar of Newton, Esq., dated the last day of the year 1710. What warrant or reason they had for setting forth the statement I cannot tell, but certified as it is we cannot doubt its truth.

"We, Sir Thomas Calder of Muirton, Knt., Rob. Dunbar of Newton, Esq., J.Ps. within the shire of Elgin, do hereby testify and declare to all concerned, that the manner of living . . . in the town of Elgin, within the said shire, for merchandise of all sorts of wines, victuals, and other necessities for families, being to be had at low rates as follows, viz. :—Ane carcase of best beef in the shambles, at 8 pund Scotts. Item—Ane mutton bulk at 2 merks Scotts. Item—Ane good hen at 2s. Scotts, and 2s. 6d. the dearest. 14 eggs for ane shilling Scotts.

Fourteen haddocks for ane shilling and six pennies Scotts, or 2s. at most. 14 whittings for 1s. Scotts. Ane stone of butter, of the best sort, at 3 pund Scotts, quhereof there goes 22 lb. to the stone. Ane stone of the best cheese of the north country make, 2 merks Scotts, or 30s. Scotts at most, quhereof there is given 22 lb. to the stone. Ane pint of milk for sixteen pennies Scotts. Muirfowl and partridge, at 2 shillings Scotts the pair. Waterfowl as follows, viz. :—Ane goose at 8s. Scotts; duck and drake, wild or tame, at four shillings."

Take the prices of some other commodities, in that same year, gathered from old shop-bills and inn-reckonings. A man's living was charged so much a meal or *diet*. Each diet was 2d. English. A chopin ale, 1d. Claret, 1s. 3d. a bottle. Brandy, 1s. 2d. Sugar, 1s. 4d. a pound. Bohea (the only tea used), £1 5s. to 18s. Cheshire cheese, 5d. per pound.

To return for a moment to the society of Elgin at the beginning of last century, there was mixed an element one hardly expected—a class of merchants—and I will describe to you their dealings. When the lord and laird drew all their rents in corn, it came to be of consequence, I may say, of necessity, to find a market for so much grain. The proprietors soon found they did not thrive best when they went to a foreign market on their own account, and thus sprung up a set of men whose chief, or at least whose first, dealing was in buying up the meal and barley of the laird's granary, and shipping it to southern markets, often to Holland and Flanders or France, but more commonly to Leith, Newcastle, and London. The return cargo was often wine; but it was by no means beneath the dignity of the trade to invest a part of the produce in foreign fruit, in sugar, and such tempting commodities for the home market. The younger sons of the landed gentry soon took to that business, and a few heads of decayed houses sought to retrieve their fortunes by its moderate profits. I find Sir James Calder of Muirtown, a Baronet, was such a merchant in Elgin before 1700, and his eldest son, Sir Thomas, carried on the same trade about 1730 and lower. Before 1700 Cumming of Relugas, and about 1730 Charles Brodie of Lethen and Dunbar of Kincorth, were corn-merchants in Inverness. The first coals I have found in the North were imported by Charles Brodie. A little later my



grandfather, Robert Innes, a younger son of Dunkinty and heir of Leuchars, who, I told you, lived at the West Port of Elgin, carried on such a trade. I stop in passing merely to observe that he paid for his purchases by bills on Thomas Coutts & Co. of Edinburgh, and those bills were in great demand, for you must remember there were no banks then north of Edinburgh, and bank notes were making their way so slowly that, in the middle of the century, the Baronet of Gordonstown asked as a great favour from his neighbour, Dunbar of Duffus, to let him have a bill on London for a small sum of money—something, I think, under £20.\*

There were many of these merchant gentlemen connected with Elgin and Inverness during the first half of the last century, but none so extensive in their dealings, nor in all ways so remarkable, as several members of the Family of Duff, who were then laying the foundations of that great fortune which their descendants still inherit. It is a peculiarity of our countrymen of the lower orders to seek to lessen and disparage men who have risen rapidly to great wealth and station, and they have been in the habit of speaking slightly of those founders of the Fife fortunes—altogether unjustly, so far as I can gather from the correspondence of the time. Like the other gentlemen, some of whom I have mentioned—and the list could be easily and largely increased—the Duffs—William Duff, younger and elder, of Dipple, merchants in Inverness and Elgin, and William Duff of Drummur, at Inverness—bought and exported corn, and imported and sold all commodities, great and small, from 1650 to far down in the following century. They supplied their customers with wine and brandy, lead for their roofs, and musket barrels for their defence; and the notable housewives of the county with dried fruit, capers, olives, anchovies, bottles, and domestic utensils, and the fine diaper, which was very early a prized luxury of our Scotch houses. But they had other dealings than these. When a great barony was to be bought, and no ready money forthcoming, the Duffs found the money for the purchase, taking a mortgage, or wadset, over the land, together

\* A good deal of light is thrown on that trade, and the early banking of Scotland, by Sir W. Forbes' History of his Banking-house, lately published.

with the security of the borrowers. In truth, before banks were established or insurance companies dreamed of, the Duffs dealt in money largely. They were the bankers of the North, and carried on the business much as we read of its being managed in Florence and Genoa, and the other free cities of Italy in the old time. In the next half century to that we are now speaking of, they invested their available funds in extensive purchases of land, and had the full advantage of the extraordinary rise in its value, which seems not yet to have come to its climax.

Now, let us walk a little way beyond the town in any direction—remember we are looking 150 years back. Suppose we go down across the Loch, and see the great house Sir Robert is building at Gordonstown. The country is without hedge or hedgerow—alas! it is but too much so still—and to add to the inconvenience, the land was at the date of our walk very much intermixed—held run-rig, as we used to call it. The tillers of the soil are no longer serfs, it is true; and it cannot be said that they pay too high rents, for the rents have not varied for a hundred years and more. But they are poor in means, poor in energy—without knowledge of comfort and without hope. Then their fashion of husbandry is this. The farmer, occupying that turf hut—for it is nothing better—manures and ploughs, and sows with corn, the old infield lying nearest him. He has no thought of changing the crop. When the poor exhausted soil refuses to bear more white grain, he gives it a year of dead fallow, and takes a flying crop from such of the *out-field* as is freest of rocks and marshes, and may have got a little manured by cattle lying there. When that is reaped, he leaves poor outfield to recover a skin of weeds or grass at leisure, and returns as before to crop the old infield. Sown grass there is none. Turnips—potatoes—are names as yet unknown beyond the kitchen garden. My father, who was born the year after Culloden, went to school in Elgin of course. In his time potatoes were so uncommon, even round the town, that it was a favourite frolic of the school-boys to steal them from some garden and take them to be roasted in the kiln fire at the mill—just as orchard-robbing has been recognized as the peculiar privilege of school-boys in all times. Turnips, as a field



crop, are of much later date. But to return—When the crop is cut and housed, the cattle wander at will over the unfenced land, and from the stubbles and moors pick up a sustenance till the hard snow storm drives them to the byre, when straw and a little marsh hay or rushes must feed them till spring. No wonder that many die of cold and hunger. The houses are not water-tight, and the straw always a short crop. It is well if the poor milk cows can stagger out on their own legs when the byre door is opened at the disappearance of the snow. It is well if the poor human inmates of the farm have not been driven to bleed the starving cattle to keep their own life in. Do not accuse me of exaggerating. I have met with many instances of people convicted of bleeding their neighbours' cattle to obtain the blood as food. Even in the houses of the gentry, food was often wanting in winter. When Sir Robert Gordon was tutor of his nephew, the Earl of Sutherland, he kept careful accounts of household matters at Dunrobin. In more than one of these yearly accounts, the meal of the household is exhausted in spring, and I remember at least two instances where orders are given to send and kill deer on the hill for the support of the Earl's family, in the months of April and May, when red deer is mere carrion!

You must not expect me to dwell on the manner of living and thinking of those poor creatures, the cultivators of the soil of fertile Moray 150 years ago. When the struggle is for life, the comfort, the cultivation—nay, the very decencies and charities of life—are apt to be forgotten.

It is no wonder that in those days a farmer never became rich. We have no such thing in the old time as a farmer acquiring property. That was reserved for our own century, with all its high rents and expensive modes of cultivation. But the farming population did at last begin to improve, at the same time when Scotland generally took such a start forward, its progress dating from 1760. In the latter half of the last century, a new mode of cultivation was introduced. More skill and energy were required—perhaps more stock and capital—but the results were, plenty and comfort, and comparative wealth.

Some of you may remember—all of you have heard—of the manner of the farmer's life among us sixty years

ago. The farms were not so large as they are now, but there was enough of land to employ the hands of the family, and plenty of moor all round that repaid improving. Wheat, which had been little cultivated before, was now common—I may say universal. There were clover and rye-grass for summer food, and hay for the horses in winter. There was turnip enough to make the season of winter the most plentiful of the year. A few men actually began to feed fat for the butcher; but the milk cow and her calves at least were always well off.

There was no bothy of hired servants, but a neighbour farmer's son was often one of the ploughmen; and he was not despised if he fell in love with the daughter of the house. I am old enough to look back to those good, simple manners, and I am not sure that in some respects we have improved in the last generation. Let me not be misunderstood. I am not here to undervalue the farmers of Moray. I have known them long, and have this season lived among them, and been indebted to them for much cordial kindness. With the shrewdness and sagacity, the industry and activity that marked their fathers, they have joined a higher cultivation and a proper feeling of independence. I don't object to the smart gig and the clever nag that takes the farmer to market any more than I regret that the uncomfortable square hat has taken the place of his father's good blue bonnet. These are trifles, and on the whole the advantage is with the present generation. There is no fear of dandyism, no fear of effeminacy, with their pursuits, as any one would say who has watched the patient hopefulness, the gallant courage with which they struggled through all the aggravating difficulties of this harvest. You might as well fear the dandyism of men who had lived through the siege of Lucknow, or served in the trenches before Sebastopol. I don't find fault with the piano and its use, were it only to accompany the Goodman's daughter in a good Scotch song, or to set the children to dance at a Christmas merry-making. But let me give one word of caution. As an old man who has seen something of the world, I would warn the farmers of Moray and their wives against educating their daughters for governesses. Better far, teach them the management of the dairy and of the kitchen—to relieve their mothers of housekeeping—to take charge of the



younger children—than to change the pure air and free life of the fields and woods for restraint and the life of cities without its pleasures—to leave a happy home for one which is seldom other than unhappy.

May I venture one word to masters and servants of the agricultural class? We cannot return to the old way of life, perhaps, and in many respects we are better. But why should the farmer and the ploughman stand so far apart? I know the insufficiency of houses on the farms, and the wandering tendency, the love of change, of the farm servants, are pleaded as the reason or the excuse for the constant shifting, which goes far to destroy the master's interest in his labourers. I wish, indeed, these reasons or excuses could be removed, and I am quite sure if the Moray farmer takes this view of the matter, and sees that what serves to change the ploughman from an indifferent hireling to a friendly dependent—a zealous member of the household—is an immense advantage to himself, he will not be long of finding means to bring about that end.

I beg pardon for this digression, and return with all humility to my own department—the *City of Elgin* and its *Antiquities*. You know I am a professed lover of picturesque antiquity, and, as such, I cannot but feel some indignation at the vulgar modernizing which Elgin has undergone in our time.

If it was absolutely necessary to remove the ancient *Parish Church of St. Giles*, why place a sham Greek Temple in its place?

The old *Town-House*, with its heavy double forestairs, and the rude old *Tolbooth Tower*, were perhaps justly condemned, though I loved their hoary quaintness. But what ill had the *Muckle Cross* done that caused it to be ejected from the spacious street which it adorned?

The irregular tall houses standing on massive pillars and arcades—the roofs of mellow grey stone, broken picturesquely with frequent windows—the tall cross-stepped gables—are poorly exchanged for the prim and trim, square, modern houses and shops. It is not merely my love of antiquity, though I confess, with a true Yankee poet—

“I love the memory of the past, its pressed yet fragrant flowers,  
The moss that clothes its broken arch, the ivy on its towers.”



Yet, in this matter, I would give up the antique, the picturesque, if it were necessary to repudiate them in studying the comforts and conveniences of life. I do not think they are incompatible. Latterly, a somewhat better style of architecture has sprung up, and to be successful, the architects of these later buildings only require to study the genius of the place—to reflect that Elgin has a peculiar and not ungraceful style of street architecture of its own, capable of adaptation, I venture to say, to all the purposes of shop and dwelling-house.

Excuse this last antiquarian growl, and let me lay the antiquary aside, and speak a word of Moray and of Elgin as they are.

They tell you that our flat country—*our laigh of Moray*—is not picturesque. No doubt it isn't a land of rock and wood, and flood; neither is it the rich English vale, with its green pastures shaded by hedge-row elms. But the view from the rocks of Covesea, or old Burghhead—taking in the firth and the Ross-shire hills, and the opening of Cromarty Bay, and all down from Dunrobin to the airy and unknown heads that may be Caithness or Orkney—is picturesque in the highest meaning of the term. For me, I confess our view from Duffus, over the long flat, broken by the old Keep of Duffus, the setting sun glancing on the Loch of Spynie, with its fine Palace Castle, the smoke marking the whereabouts of the little City of Elgin over the Quarrywood, the opening of the Glen of Rothes, and the two heights that terminate our landscape on that side—*Benrinnes* and the *Bin of Cullen*—have charms that more adorned landscapes do not possess. But if you are not to the manner born—if you don't enjoy that peculiar Moray landscape—wait till to-morrow morning, then mount on my rough Irish car, and let me drive you to Elgin—not the direct way, but a little round—past the Lime Kiln, under Lesmurdie's Cottage, and—as you gaze from that turn above Newmill at the old Cathedral towers crowning the river bank, rising from among what appears a goodly wood of forest trees, with the towers and spires of the burgh churches behind, lighted with an early morning sun—confess that no man can look on that landscape unmoved, even setting aside all the associations which crowd upon *us*. I fancy that is the view that oftenest rises to the mind of the Moray

"loon" in his log-hut or dark shanty, far away in the backwoods, when he shuts his eyes and presses his hands upon them, and dreams himself back to the school holiday, by the banks of the Lossie—back to the days of the *scantack* and *paperap*.

The town, with all its faults of modern art, has still an air of some dignity that distinguishes it from country towns in general. Out of the streets, there is nothing to blame. The villas that have grown up, and are daily springing up around, delight the eye with their appearance of comfort, their neatness, and even elegance, and with the proofs of a taste for gardening—a great symptom of civilization.

I don't wonder that old Moray natives draw round Elgin to spend the evening of life. I am not surprised that many strangers are attracted by the charming climate and the many conveniences of the neighbourhood. Your society now shows a cultivation which I seek in vain in other country towns. Your Museum alone proves a great amount of concentrated intelligence in antiquities and natural science. A hundred years ago, Lachlan Shaw, then minister here, put forth his *History of Moray*, the second published county history of Scotland—a very creditable book for its time. But he stood alone—without sympathy, without help, without fellow workman or successor. What a different book might be made of a history of Moray now! You have in your own circle almost all the elements of a most efficient band of statistical workmen. Let Dr. Geddes take the command. In mediæval antiquities he will be supported by Dr. Taylor and Mr. James Macdonald. For charter knowledge—the interesting subject of the descent of lands as well as of families—Mr. Robert Young's stores are ample, and, what is rare, are all at command; nor should I be found wanting in that department. Then, for family history and the successive changes in manners, Captain Edward Dunbar has accumulated great stores. In natural science we are yet richer. In geology have we not Mr. Patrick Duff—(I wish he were stronger and younger)—and Mr. Martin and Mr. Macdonald again? Botany is safe in the hands of Mr. Stables and Dr. Innes of Forres. But, for natural science, what is there in all the dominions of nature—earth, air, water—that escapes the observation of Dr. Gordon of Birnie?



With such a band from volunteers on the spot, already drilled—with assistance of all lovers of nature and of our country—with a rising generation striving to enter our ranks, we could do more than Shaw dreamt of—something really worthy of the Province of Moray, which we love so well!

And now, I have but to thank you for the kind reception you have given your old Sheriff, and the patience with which you have heard him.] (*Cosmo Innes.*)

Next up the river is

#### THE PARISH OF BIRNIE,

Anciently *Brenoth*, i. e., a Brae or High Land, it extendeth on the east bank of Lossie, 3 miles from north to south, and a mile from east to west.

The Church \* standeth near the river, a half mile above the north end of the parish, 2 miles south from Elgin, and 4 miles north east of Dallas.

\* This small Fane, next to the Church of Mortlach, is the oldest entire in the Province of Moray. It has been repeatedly re-roofed. The windows have all been tampered with—the parishioners not having been content with “the dim religious light.” There was no Altar or East Window, the tapers lit at Mass being artificially effective. There were two small side windows, deeply splayed, behind round arches with unequal sides. A plain deal Pulpit is upreared in the centre of the Kirk, at the fine Norman arch which divides the Chancel from the Nave. The former is boarded off for a Kirk Session-house, while the site of the Altar is or was lately supplanted by a poor stove. The Church is built most substantially, inside and outside, of well-cut ashler freestone. It seems to date at the 11th or 12th century, and may stand as long as it has stood.

*The Stone at Birnie* (a granite boulder) is now placed at the west pillar of the northern entrance to the Churchyard. At a

The whole parish was a part of the Bishop lands of Moray; and when Patrick Hepburn, the last Roman Catholic Bishop, harboured his outlawed nephew James Earl of Bothwell, in 1566, he resigned these and other lands to the Earl of Moray Regent; and this parish is a part of the estate of the Earl of Moray, but held in feu by the Earl Fife, William King of Newmiln, Leslie of Finrossie, Coupland of Stackhouse, Duff of Tomshill, &c. But of late the Earl of Findlater has purchased, and is now sole proprietor of this parish.

## BIRNIE.

[*Situation, Soil, Climate.*—Besides the valleys which the rivers occupy, and may be conceived to have formed, in the chain of mountain stretched along the southern side of the low lands of Moray, one valley, in which there is no river, opens southward from the widest part of the plain, where the western side of the parish of Elgin borders with the east of Birnie, and extends quite through the mountain to the banks of the Spey. A square hill, about 6 miles along the base of every side, is hereby insulated on the east of this defile, having the plain of Rothes on the south, on the east partly Rothes, and partly Speymouth, and the champaign of Moray on its northern side. The mountain on the western side of this defile extends beyond its length to either hand, from Craig Elachy overhanging the Spey, to the lake of Mostowie in the parish of Alves; as if that river, once occupying a channel

former period, it had been built into the low wall which surrounds the Churchyard, but it was removed some years ago to its present site. It has been the subject of many surmises; but its common appellation is *The Bible Stone*, from its having an oblong figure resembling a book cut out on its surface. Also, *The Cairn of Kilfornan* and vestiges of trenches and encampments are to be seen. See Plate XVII. Vol. I. *Stuart's Sculptured Stones of Scotland.* (ED.)



along its base 60 feet higher than its present bed, had then poured its whole stream through this defile, and winded over the plain, in a variety of courses during different ages into the sea.

The parish of Birnie is placed in the entrance of this defile, extended partly on the plain and partly on the side of the mountain, through which the water of Lossie, issuing from its own valley in the mountain, bends from its original direction parallel to the Frith, winds northward along the plain, doubled almost in its stream by the increase of three brooks, the Lenoeh, Bardon, and Rash-crook, each tumbling from the hill through its own narrow vale. It appears by the *Chart. Mor.* that the parish has bore the name Brenuth since times that were ancient in the beginning of the 13th century, a Gaelic appellation, signifying, in its literal interpretation, the north hill side. The cultivated land is generally a shallow soil, sandy, stony, and steep, lying on a bed of rock, or much-concreted gravel. The soil on several fields on the banks of the Lossie is loam incumbent on sand, or clay; and over the whole parish, plots of moorish or peat soil are found. The air, though healthful, is rather moist and cold in the hills, where the frost is earlier and sharper, and more rain and snow fall, than on the plain.

*State of Property.*—The whole parish was part of the lands of the bishoprick. The Regent Earl of Moray obliged Bishop Hepburn, on the pretence of entertaining his outlawed nephew Bothwell, about the year 1566, to annex it with other lands to his private estate. The hills affording game in abundance, one croft, for the Earl's accommodation in the hunting season, was assigned to the vintner, for the yearly payment of a rose, and another to the blacksmith, for the annual delivery of a horse-shoe, if required. This last has still remained a separate property, and appertains to Thomas Stephen, Esq., physician in Elgin, valued in the Cess-Book of the County at £6 16s. 6d. Scots, now rented at about £12 sterling. The remainder of the parish appertains to the Earl of Findlater, valued at £727 17s., amounting at present to £360 sterling of yearly rent, from which the feu-duties to the Earl of Moray are 8 bolls and £1 4s. 2d.; and to the Crown, as succeeding the Bishop, £3 10s. 10d. The whole arable land of the parish is 850 acres, of which two farms only

are rented above £50 sterling; and there are 40 under that extent. The uncultivated ground, consisting of moor soil and peat earth, with some interjacent plots of green pasture, amounts to 5000 acres.

*State Ecclesiastical.*—The Church was the first Cathedral in the diocese. There is no account when the present fabric was built: though small, it is wholly of free-stone, neatly squared and cut, and is distinguished by its nave and choir. The fourth Bishop, Simon de Tonei, was buried in it in the year 1184. The stipend is £41 16s. 5d. and 38 bolls 2 firlots of victual. The glebe is nearly 9 acres. The right of patronage appertains to the Earl of Moray. The salary of the school is £5; and as the number of souls in the parish, of whom 2 only are Seceders, amounts to 402, the emoluments of office, arising from about 20 scholars, must be inconsiderable. The provision for the poor arises from two separate bequeathments, amounting together to £2 10s.; and the double of that sum is added by the contributions of the people who attend public worship in the Parish Church, which, after the necessary deductions to the session-clerk and officer, affords a sorry pittance to 18 persons, enrolled on the parish list.

*Miscellaneous Information.*—The people, though poor, are industrious, cheerful, and temperate: music is their favourite diversion; many play on the bagpipe, and several on the violin.

There is a very ancient Bell of copper and silver; it is called the Coronach [or Ronnel]: its figure is not round; it is square, having two sides wider than the other two: all of them are cut into open decorations near the top. It was made at Rome, and consecrated by the Pope. [It is 6 by 4 inches, and 18 inches high, riveted with nails, with a handle.] The consecrated Font remains also entire, though now tumbled about without reverence in the churchyard. It is a free-stone vessel, the frustum of a cone, and appears to have been divided by a plate of iron, that the water for the baptism of males might not be mixed with that for females.\* The Church is still held in great veneration. It is believed that prayers

\* Nonsense! The ancient Fonts and those of modern correct design are so divided; for the intent of allowing the Water when administered to run off through a hole at the bottom. (G.)



there for the sick, for three following Sundays, will be heard; and people, at the distance of 60 miles, have desired these prayers: and it is a jocular rebuke among the common people, upon undue complaints for any slight distress or improper behaviour, that "such must be prayed for in the Church of Birnie, that they may end or mend."

The cairn of Kilforeman, although a pile of stone 300 feet in circumference at its base, hath ceased to tell the purpose of its own accumulation; and "the Bible Stone," about a mile eastward from the Church, having the figure of a book distinctly engraven, no longer marks the property of the Bishop: but the cave in the rock of Gedloch still records the tradition of its having been the haunt of a band of armed robbers, who plundered and distressed the country, and reminds the passing generation of the superior advantages of the present constitution, by which every species of oppression, unauthorised by law, is most entirely quelled.

The vestiges of an Encampment, protected on the west by the brook Bardon, and on the north and east by a deep defile, is still to be traced.

A ridge of rock extends from east to west through the middle of the parish, and quarries of free-stone, slate, and lime-stone, have lately been discovered. There are oak, birch, hazel, and plane-trees, but not in sufficient quantity for the implements of husbandry; and large trunks of oak and fir are dug in the tracts of peat earth. Broom, furze, juniper, sloes, and bramble, are in plenty, and the water-lily in the Gedloch is peculiar to the parish. It is embellished also in some degree by two water-falls, the Linn of Shoggle, and the Æss of Glenlaterach, each about 20 feet in height. (*Survey of the Province of Moray.*)

Birnie is a place of great antiquity and anciently of importance. It seems to have been the first place fixed on by the holy Christian missionaries as a suitable place for a Cathedral Church. This seems to be proved by Bishop Brice's Charter for the erection of Spynie. "Our predecessors," says he, "took only one of the Churches of Birnie, or Spynie, or Kinedar." Here the fourth Bishop was buried.



The present fabric, however, does not seem to be of such antiquity as this, though exceedingly old.

Many curious relics are here. The quaint old Church at the side of the "north hill side," as the name implies, is an exceedingly interesting building, one of the oldest it is supposed. It consists of a nave and chancel. The pulpit is placed now in the centre of the fine arch which divided the two, and the chancel used as a vestry. What the old Bishops would have thought of this I know not. The chancel is lighted with narrow lancet windows, the walls being of great thickness. Here is a very ancient Bell said to have been consecrated and brought from Rome. It is square, having two sides wider than the other two; all of them are cut into open decorations near the top. It has a handle, square also on the top. A curious font of a nature seldom to be seen is now tumbling about the churchyard, where it may be thrown about at pleasure.

At the gate is one of those curious sculptured Stones to be met with often in such old places. The figures can now be scarcely traced. A drawing is given in *Stuart's Sculptured Stones of Scotland*.

After its desertion as the Cathedral, it seems to have been important. Duncan Thayne of Calder had a charter in 1421, part of the scut and service being thrice yearly, paying scut and homage at the Bishop's Court at the Chapel of Birneth.

In 1451 the Barony of Byrneth was incorporated with that of Spyny in a grant made by King James, in hand and glory of the Holy Trinity and grateful gift to John Bishop of Moray. I know not the Patron Saint, neither does Mr. Shaw speak of this. (*J. B. Craven.*)

#### EPITAPHS IN THE CHURCHYARD OF BIRNIE.

I. Here lyes under this pulpit the Corps of Mr. Wm. Saunders, late minister of this parochin, who deceased the 13 of May, 1670, and of Katharine and Elspet Saunders his children.

II. Here. lyes. an. honest. man. called. Alex. Adam. some-time. lived. in. Whiterath. who. departit. 1668. and. Elspet. Rvssel his. spouse. who. departed. 1688.

A. A.

M. O.

III. Here. lyes. Mariorie. Robertson. who. lived. in. Birny. who. deceast. the. 20. of. September. 1694. and . . . .

IV. Here. lyes. ane. honest. man. . . . time. lived. in. Bog-syde. who. departed. the . . . . 16.

J. R. D.

V. Here. lyes. interred. the. bodie. of. John . . . dine. who. dyed. the. 7. day. of. Feb. 1710. and. his. spouse. Agnes. Stephen. who. died. the. 6. of. January. 1677. and. 3. children.

I. R.

I. M.

1711.

VI. This. is. the. burial. place. appointed. for. John. Petrie. in. Whitereath. who. departed. the. 2. day. of. October. 1709. and. . . . his. spouse. who. died. the\* . . . . of\* . . . . and. here. lyes. William. Greager. some. time. indualler. in . . . .

VII. Here are interred the bodies of James Man in Bogside, who died the 25 of March, 1727, and Janet Brander, who died the 10th of August, 1745, spovse to the said James Man, and their children, who died—James Man, on the 30 of November, 1731, Margaret, the 10th of March, 1742, Isabella Man\* . . . . and Janet Man, Alex., James, and Epheme, lawful children to David Stephen and Isabella Man.

VIII. This. is. the. burial. place. of. John. Smith. sometime. smith . . . who. died. the. 4. of. May. 1740. aged. 71. and. his. spovse. Margaret. Simpson\* . . . and. their. children\* . . .

IX. Here. lyes. the. corps. of. Wm. Myrdach. farmer. in. Auchtertyre. He. died. the. 2. day. of. June. 1741. and. of. Janet. Murdach. his. spouse, who. dyed. the\* . . . day. of\* . . . and. Alexander. Murdach. his. son, who. dyed. the\* . . . day. of\* . . . and. his. spouse, Janet. Murdach, who. dyed. the. 5. day. of. May. 1750, and. their. children.

All passengers yt does goe by  
And viw the dust wherein I ly,  
I once had breath as well as ye,  
Therefore be mindful for to di.

X. This. is. the. bvrial. place. of. Alexander. Mortimar. sometime. farmer. in. Rioch. who. died. the. 11. day. of. November. 1736. aged. 63. and. also. of. John. Mortimar. farmer. at. the. Eastport. of. Elgin. his. son. who. erected. this. stone. and\* . . .

XI. Here. lies. the. dvst. of. Alleogr. Cowie. sometime. farmer. in. Iteraith. who. died. the. 27. of. Feb. 1741. aged. 63.

\* Never inserted.



and. Marjory. Brander. his. spovse. who. died. the. 21. of. Jany. 1757. and. their. children. Anna. Elspet. Dorothy. Mariorie. Cowey.

XII. Here lies William Michael, lawful son to William Michael in Fa . . . who died . . .

XIII. Here lyes James\* . . . and their children, Elspet, Elizabeth, Anne, Ielan, John, Robert, Samuel, all died young, and Alexander, died Octr. 1744, aged 24, and his son James, who was at the charges of this stone.

XIV. This Stone is placed here by James Omfre, in memory of his parents Alexander Omfre, sometime farmer in Tanishill, who died 1 March, 1762, aged 63, and his spouse.

XV. Here lies the bodie of William Cow, farmer in White raith, who died the 23 of . . . 1777, and his . . . died in . . .

XVI. This is the burial place of John Rush, farmer in Stainkhens, who died 20 Septr., 1766, and Katherine Rush, his spouse, who died September the 18, 1749, and their children, Elspet, died February the 9, 1750, and Jean, died March the 1, 1750.

XVII. This is the burial place of James Wiseman, leat farmer in Thonishill, who died Dec. 16, 1762.

Interred here the body of Alexander Janken, late farmer in Pettendrich, who died the 4 January, 1789, aged 61 years.

#### THE PARISH OF DALLAS

(*Dale-uis*, i.e., a watered valley) is surrounded with hills, except to the east towards Birnie, and a small portion of it to the north-west.

The Church standeth on the west bank of Lossie, about 4 miles south-west of Birnie, and near 5 miles north of Knockando.

In the lower end of the parish is Killess,†

\* Never inserted.

† The estate of Kellas lies on both sides of the River Lossie, below the Barony of Dallas, and borders with the lands of Pluscarden. So far back as 1237, Robert Fyndoc held Kellas



church-land, for above 100 years the heritage of Farquharson of Killess now extinct, and the lands are the property of the Earl Fife.

Above this is the barony of Dallas. I know not if, from this valley, Dallas of that Ilk had its name and designation. But I find Willielmus de Doleys, a witness to Hugo Herock's donation, on the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin, 1286, and "Johannes de Dolais, Thanus de Cromdale on 12th Sep., 1367" (*Reg. Epis. Morav.*), and Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Archibald Dallas of that Ilk, with consent of her husband, Duncan Fraser, in 1428, disposed her right of Dallas to John Dallas of Easter Foord, her uncle, and the heir male of that family, who, in exchange of his lands in the south, got from David, Earl of Crawford, the lands of Budzet in Calder parish anno 1440 (*Hist. Kelr.*). This barony had been long the property of Cumine of Altyre, before it was sold to Sir Ludovick Gordon of Gordonstoun,

in feu from Bishop Andrew of Moray; and in 1443 Alexander, King of Scotland, granted it to God, the blessed Virgin Mary, the Evangelist S. John, and to the Maison Dieu near Elgin. The lands of Easter and Wester Kellas and Corponach were granted by the Bishop and Chapter to William Farquarson, dated at Scone 26 Aug. and 2 Sep., 1562. A Precept, dated at Spynie 15 Jan., 1584, infefted William Cuming or Farquharson in the lands of "Ester and Vaster Kellas and the Corponach." The family of Farquharson descended from Ferquhard, 2nd son of Alexander Cuming, 6th laird of Altyre, who, being chagrined by the refusal of the Chief of the Clan to bury some of their deceased relatives in the family burial-place, dropped the cognomen of Cuming for Farquharson. (Ed.)

in the end of the last century. Sir Robert Gordon, by ditching, draining, and manuring, has improved this place and built a convenient house, adorned with much planting.

A mile north-west from the Church is Brenchil, some time the property of Grant of Brenchil, but lately of Cumine of Craigmiln, who, about 1752, sold it to James Grant of Knockando.

#### DOLLAS.

[*Situation, Soil, Climate.*—A part of the parish of Dollas, the estate of Craigmill, lies in the southern end of the valley which has been considered as forming the body of the parish of Rafford. Through this estate the stream of Lochty hastens eastward, through a narrow cut in the rocky hill, to loiter in the vale of Pluscarden. This cut appears as if made merely for the passage of the Lochty, where it would be easy to turn it northward by the Church of Rafford, if that was not originally its natural course. The greater part of the parish of Dallas lies on the south side of the Hill of Melundy, which is stretched between the courses of the Lochty and the Lossie. When the Lossie occupied a channel about 3 feet higher than the bottom of its present bed, a great proportion of the plain on the south side of the Hill of Melundy must have been a lake; and except a pool, covering only a few acres, the whole of this plain still remains a deep extensive bed of pure peat earth; from this circumstance its Gaelic name, *dale uisk*, the water valley, has probably been suggested. Along the course of the Lossie, from Birnie, at the east, to its sources in the mountain, which is interposed between Spey and Findern, the parish measures 12 miles; its breadth, including Craigmill, southward to the borders of the parish of Knockando, is 9 miles; but its mean breadth, which is pretty equally divided by the river, taken from the southern side of the Hill of Melundy, measures only about 6 miles. Several brooks rushing down from the hills on both sides intersect the parish across, nearly at right angles to the river.



Except such sandy fields as lie upon its banks, the soil may be accounted moorish, and in general not very fertile; the crops for the most part are insufficient for the support of the people and of the cattle. The air is cold and often moist, retarding the seed season till towards the middle of April, and the harvest till near the end of November.

*State of Property.*—The barony of Dollas is a part of the estate of Gordonstown, and by succession is become the property of Col. Alexander Penrose Cuming Gordon of Altyre. The family of Gordonstown had projected a magnificent seat at Rhininver, under the southern side of the Hill of Melundy, in the form of a crescent, having the house in the diameter, and the offices in the periphery. The offices were only completed, in which a commodious temporary accommodation is neatly fitted up. The Hill of Melundy behind, on which a semi-circular garden, answering to the form of the building, was intended, is planted with an extensive forest of Scots fir; the heathy peat marsh spreads a large dun plain before, having the river trailing around its farther verge.

The valued rent amounts to £818 15s. 6d. Scots. The real rent was considerably increased about 30 years ago by the improvements in the hilly parts of the estate. The landlord gave timber for the buildings, which were of sod; the second year, the first rent was only a hen; but it increased by 1s. for every succeeding crop of the lease, which terminated in the nineteenth year, when the land was let of new, at the value to which it had been then brought.

The estate of Killess or Kellas, appertaining to the Earl of Fife, lies also on both sides of the river below the barony of Dollas, and borders with his Lordship's land of Pluscarden. There is a considerable extent of natural oak wood on the north bank of the river; it has been managed only as copse wood, and is at present young. The valued rent of this estate is £271 11s. 4d. Scots. A considerable extent of land has also been recently added by improvements in the hills. The only other proprietor of the parish is Robert Grant of Elchies, Esq., who has the lands of Craigmill, valued at £301 19s., making the valued rent of the whole parish equal to £1,392 5s. 10d. Scots. The farms are but of small extent. The rent of the arable ground stretches from 1s. to 15s. the acre—



from the least improved moor to the highest cultivated field, the mean rent will be about 11s. the acre, exclusive of the natural pasturage.

*State Ecclesiastical.*—The parish was made up in its present form in the year 1657, by detaching Altyre and conjoining Killess. It is not now particularly known in what manner the consequent dilapidation of the stipend was compensated to the ministers of Elgin, but it must be from the record inferred that these ancient worthies were neither raised above the vain concerns of this transitory life in any superior measure to that of their modern successors, nor that, like to the primitive Christians, they were at all disposed to have their worldly goods in common. In October, 1672, Alexander Cuming, minister of Dallas, complains to the Presbytery, "That notwithstanding of the legal annexation of Killess, both as to benefice and office, Mr. James Horn, minister of Elgin, had that year, without warrant from bishop or synod, but at his own hand, intermeddled with and carried off a considerable part of the stipend." This complaint was referred to a meeting of the Synod, in seven days after, who appointed a committee to settle the business.

A few years ago the Church was a very ancient fabric, thatched with heath, and without windows, save 2 or 3 narrow slits which yawned to a very disproportioned wideness within, and the effigy of the patron, St. Michael, stood weather-beaten in a niche near the top of the eastern gable without, about 4 feet high. The Church and Manse, however, are at present commodious buildings, though both in some danger of being swept away by the river. The stipend, including the allowance for the Communion, is £58 6s. 4d. sterling, of which about £11 sterling has been drawn from the vicarage teinds of the parish of Aulder, by an arrangement which seems to have been continued from the establishment of the Church of Rome. The glebe, like the parish, is divided by the Lossie; it contains about 14 acres, and is accommodated with a little natural wood on the banks of the river, affording some convenience, but not an object of any profit.

The Parochial School is only a recent establishment. The salary is £5, and the fee of the session-clerk only £1. The Church being in a central situation is sufficiently commodious for the celebration of the public ordinances

of religion. The Parochial School, however, can accommodate but a small proportion of a parish of such length, intersected by so many streams, often impassable in every season. The Society for Propagating Christian Knowledge have, therefore, established a school, with an appointment of £10 in the year, in the populous district of Killess, and which has hitherto served the purpose of its settlement in a very satisfactory manner. The poor on the parish list are not a numerous body—there is no other fund for their provision but the charity of their own neighbours, all of whom are far from opulent. The whole people appertain to the National Church, amounting to the number of 888 souls.

*Miscellaneous Information.*—In the churchyard a neatly cut stone Column, 12 feet high, terminated by a well formed *flower-de-luce* for its capital, still remains the Market Cross, at which the effects of bankrupt tenants are occasionally exposed to auction. A large square stone is the pedestal. The whole length, or rather height, of the Column from the ground is 12 feet.

The peats for fuel are of an excellent quality, and the quantity in this remote quarter deemed inexhaustible. As the soil does not afford corn sufficient for the support of the people, the deficiency, the rent, and other necessaries, are supplied by the sale of sheep and black cattle which can be spared, and in a great measure by the weekly sale of peats in the markets of Forres and Elgin, sold from 8d. to 1s. 2d. a small cartfull, drawn by a very little lean horse. The wool also which is produced in the parish is spun in the families of the tenants, and several weavers are constantly employed in making it into coarse cloth called *plaiden*, which is sold from 9d. to 1s. the yard.] (*Survey of the Province of Moray.*)

#### EPITAPHS IN THE CHURCHYARD OF DALLAS.

In confirming eight of the old canonries of the Cathedral of Elgin in 1226, mention is made of the Church of Dolays Mychel. In 1350 the Church of Dolays Mychel, of which the Sub-Dean of Moray was incumbent, is rated at 11s. Scots. (*Reg. Ep. Morav.*)

In 1574 the Kirks of Birneth (Birnie) and Doles were under one minister, and Alex. Johnstone was reader at the latter.



The River Lossie runs past, and Michael's Well is close beside the Kirk. Michael Fair was held there in old times, and a Market Cross of the *fleur-de-lis* pattern—unfortunately much injured—stands in the burial-ground. A stone effigy of the Saint (at one time in a niche in the wall of the old kirk) lies beside the Cross.

The date upon the belfry, 1793, has reference to the building of the present Church, within which is the following inscription upon a marble tablet:—

I. Helen Cuming, lawful daughter of Alexander Cuming of Craigmill and Elizabeth Tulloch, died the 14th Nov., 1800, and was interred in the family burial-ground, which is opposite to, and a few feet distant from, the outside of the south-east door of this church. Also are interred in the same burying-ground daughters of Alexander Cuming of Craigmill: Margaret Cuming, who died at Elgin 21st January, 1808; Jean Cuming, who died at Elgin 2nd November, 1817; Clementina Cuming, who died at Elgin 2nd June, 1821; Eliza Cuming, who died at Elgin 7th December, 1835.

William Cuming, the eldest son by a third marriage of James Cuming of Relugas and Presley, was the first of the Craigmill Cumings, and his full brother George was an officer under Gustavus Adolphus (*Douglas' Baronage*).

One of this family, who was a Commissioner to the Duke of Perth, was at the Battle of Culloden, where he was taken prisoner and carried to London. Having been released from prison, through some influence unknown to himself, he returned home, and about 1752 sold the property of Craigmill to Mr. Grant of Elchies.

The next three inscriptions (in the churchyard) relate to members of the same family:—

II. Sacred to the memory of Peter Cuming of Craigmill, Esquire, who died at Blackhills on the 14th April, 1811, aged eighty-five years; and Mrs. Isobel Leslie of Balnakeith, his spouse, who died at Blackhills on the 30th November, 1823, aged ninety years.

Mrs. Cuming's ancestors, who acquired the property of Balnakeith, near Forres, about the end of the 17th century, were a branch of the noble family of Rothes. The Rev. Mr. Leslie, minister of St. Andrews-Lhanbryde, who also attained to the age of 90, was the father of Mrs. Cuming and other children, one of whom, a son, sold Balnakeith about the year 1849.



III. Sacred to the memory of Lachlan Cuming, Esquire of Blackhills, who was the son of Peter Cuming of Craigmill, Esqr., and Mrs. Isobel Leslie of Balnageith. Affectionate duty and kindness, as a son and a brother, were the endearing study of his whole life. He died 19th November, 1836, aged eighty years.

IV. Erected by his children to the memory of Thomas Cuming, Esq. of Demarara, who died in Elgin on the 31st of March, 1813, aged 73 years. He lived 50 years in that Colony; was a principal promoter of its prosperity and wealth, an affectionate husband, an indulgent parent, a kind friend, and a truly benevolent man, esteemed and beloved by all who ever knew him.

V. From a headstone:—

This is the burial place of Alex. Buie, sometime ventener in Elgin, who died June the 12th, 1758, aged 51, and Jannet Richard, his spouse.

O, mortal man, stay and observe  
That strength nor wealth cannot preserve  
You from the grave where now I ly,  
My soul is far beyond the sky;  
Thy thoughts on worldly things are lost,  
When death appears you soon must post.

Here lyes also the body of Charles Buie, sometime farmer in Torrie Castle, who dyed Feb. the 9th, 1773, aged 52 years, and his spouse, Agnes Watson, who dyed Oct. the 8th, 1793, aged 55 years.

VI. Near the above:—

This stone is placed here by John Camron, mason in Edinvil, in memory of his virtuous mother, Elisabeth Camron, who died 3rd November, 1779, aged 47 years. She was prudent, virtuous, temperate, chaste, though early stript of life. Her soul immortal among the bliss above we hope triumphs in her Redeemer's love.

The expression "of" in next inscription is scarcely correct, Mr. Dick having been tenant of the farm of Rhininver, under Sir William Gordon Cuming, Bart.:—

VII. Sacred to the memory of Wm. Dick, Esq. of Rhininver, who died on the 8th day of October, 1846.

This district gave surname to the family of Dallas, or Dallas, one of whom, William of Doleys, knight, witnessed Hugh Herock's gift of the lands of Daldeleyth (Dandeleith) to the Church of the Holy Trinity of Elgin, 1286. The

direct male line of the family failed in Archibald Dallas of that ilk. In 1428 his daughter and heiress, Elizabeth, wife of Duncan Fraser of the Lovat family, disposed her right of Dallas to her uncle, the laird of Easter Ford.

Sir Thomas Cuming of Altyre, some time before 1411, obtained certain lands within the barony, and in 1419 received a license from James I. to erect a castle or fortalice at Dallas. Ruins of the stronghold and outworks of Tura Castle, which appear to have been moated, occupy an eminence on the side of Dorval Burn, about a mile north from the Church.

In 1622 James Cuming of Altyre had a charter of the advocation of the Kirk of Dallas, which was retained by the Baronets of Altyre until the abolition of patronage.

Farquhar, second son of Alexander Cuming of Altyre, was possibly the first Cuming that held the Kellas portion of the parish. He appears to have had a mind of his own, and, as tradition avers, having quarrelled with his brother, and being refused burial in the tomb of his ancestors, he assumed, by way of revenge, the surname of Farquharson. From him are said to be descended the Farquharsons of Haughton, and other families of that name in Aberdeenshire (Epitaphs i., 118.)

A rude undressed boulder, possibly the remains of a stone circle, which stands on the east side of the parish, is said to mark the site of an old church or a burial place.

A bridge which crossed the Lossie near the church was carried away by the floods of 1829 and was replaced by the present freestone structure, which has three arches.

The village of Dallas, which is a feu off the Altyre estates, was founded about 80 years ago, and contains from 40 to 50 houses.

Dallas (*Dal-es*) appears to mean the river haugh; and Kellas (*Keal-es*) the narrow river, is quite descriptive of the latter district as compared with the former. (*Jervise's Epitaphs.*)

I now return to the mouth of the river Lossie.

#### KINEDDAR OR KINEDAR PARISH.

The parish of Kineddar (*Cean-edir*, i.e. a point between the sea and the loch) is two miles in



length and one in breadth, westward from Lossiemouth, betwixt the frith and the Loch of Spynie.

The Church standeth near the centre, a mile east from Duffus;  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles almost north from New Spynie, and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles from St. Andrews north-west. At the mouth of Lossie is a harbour, but so barred as to admit only small craft. It is the property of the town of Elgin, where they have some fishing boats. (The harbour of Lossie and the fishing houses were the property of the family of Brodie, from whom the Magistrates of Elgin purchased it, and pay a small feu-duty. The harbour, which is now repairing, will be of great advantage to the merchants and other inhabitants of the town.) Next thereto are the lands of Kineddar, granted by Patrick Hepburn, Bishop of Moray, to the Earl of Moray Regent, and purchased from that family by the Lord Brodie. Here there is a fishing of white fish at Stotfield. West from Kineddar is Drainie, once the heritage of Innes of Drainie, now extinct, from whom Sir Robert Gordon purchased it anno 1636, as he did in 1638 the adjacent lands of Ettles from Innes of Pathnack, and in 1639 the lands of Plowlands, Ogstoun, and Bellormie, from the Marquis of Huntly. Here is a fine seat called Gordonston, and a large modern house, with gardens, ponds, and planting. At Cave-Sea there is a good white fishing.



## DRAINIE.

[*Situation, Soil, Climate.*—The parishes which have been described may, in a general way, be considered as extending from the sea to the mountain; but here the country opens to the wideness of 10 or 12 miles, and a right line passing over the plain, by the Church of Drainy, would measure the breadth of this parish and that of Spynie and Elgin together. The coast from Speymouth to Lossiemouth, mostly in the parish of Urquhart, lies in the direction from south-east to north-west, and has been described a low, flat, sandy shore. A rocky head-land called Coulard, signifying in the Gaelic *back-height*, is here projected into the sea, round which the coast turning, tends more directly west to the head of the firth at Beaulie. This head-land may be regarded as the termination of a ridge raised along the coast for the whole length of the parish, and continued far into Duffus, there being only one breach on the western end of the Coulard, through which the level land stretches to the sea. Between this ridge and the lake of Spynie lies the parish of Drainie, a Gaelic word, importing *the thorny field*, probably the natural production of the land about the Church before it was cultivated. The parish is 2 miles in breadth and 4 in length, with very little inequality of surface; yet scarcely one half of this plain is reduced to a state of cultivation, the greatest part consisting of barren moor, producing only short heath, or coarse benty grass. The land under cultivation is very fertile, partly a rich loam or clay, and partly a light, black, or sandy soil. The climate is wholesome and mild. In the marshy parts both of this and the parish of Duffus, agues were common about 30 years ago, but have for some time past been totally unknown.

*State of Property.*—Mr. Brander of Pitgaveny is the proprietor of the eastern quarter of the parish, the lands of Kinedur (in Gaelic, *Cean-na-dur*, the head in the water), the valued rent of which is £831 12s. 8d. Scots, and not quite £500 sterling of real rent. The rest of the parish, except the village of Lossiemouth, is the property of Alex. Penrose Cuming Gordon of Altyr, Esq., the valued rent of which is £2213 4s. 8d. Scots: being a great part of the estate of Gordonstown; the family seat being near

the western end of the parish, a great heavy square building, said to be in the Dutch style. A considerable part of the inside has never been finished. The approach is a straight road between square enclosures and plantations, with an artificial pond upon one side, about 300 yards in length and 20 in breadth, with a little stagnant water spread over its miry bottom. The offices are built round a court perfectly circular, occupying one acre of ground, and the pavement of the court regularly concave. Some parts of this building are two stories high, which is supposed to be the cause that in windy weather there is no shelter within the court. This form of building offices appears to be commodious, but has not been imitated.

The real rent of the estate in this parish is about £800 sterling.

The farms in general are small, there being only 3 that much exceed the extent of 100 acres; their number in whole is 68. The land rent, when paid in grain, is from a boll to a boll and an half of bear or oats the Scots acre; but it is the practice to give 5 firlots of oats for the boll, nearly equal to the English quarter; when let for money, the acre gives from 15s. to 21s. Over a great part of the estate of Gordonstown, the tithes of corn were drawn in kind, the tenth sheaf being taken off the field by the proprietor. This was accounted equal to the third part of the rent, but it has of late been given up.

[*The lands of Drainie* were granted by Patrick Hepburn, Bishop of Moray, with consent of the Chapter, on 16th May, 1545, to James Innes and Catherine Gordon, his spouse. Robert Innes of Drainie, great-grandson of the above James, sold his paternal estate, including *Salterhill*, on 20th Oct., 1636, to Sir Robert Gordon, son of Alexander, Earl of Sutherland, who, in the course of six or seven years had the whole of Ogston, Pathnik, Burnside, and Plewland added to the Gordonstown estate. From the family of Innes of Drainie (1st, James; 2nd, Robert, his son; 3rd, James, his son; 4th, Robert, his son, who sold the estate) were descended the Inneses of Drumgask, Balnacraig, and Ballogie, in Aberdeenshire. They were strict Roman Catholics, and many of them Priests. Of this family was the Rev. Thomas Innes (born 1662, died 1744) the learned author of a *Critical Essay on the His-*



*tory and Antiquities of Scotland*, published in 1729, and of a *Civil and Ecclesiastical History of Scotland*.

The lands of Salterhill, formerly called *Little Drainie*, were granted by Patrick, Bishop of Moray, with consent of the Chapter, 24th Jan., 1547, to Patrick Kinnaird. His grandson, Patrick Kinnaird of Salterhill, sold the lands, in 1615, to James Innes of Drainie, whose son and successor sold his paternal estate to Sir Robert Gordon, as mentioned above.] (Ed.)

*State Ecclesiastical*.—The parishes of Kineadur and Oguestown were annexed in the year 1666, about which time the Church was built, not in the most central situation of the present parish. The patronage is a pertinent of the estate of Gordonstown. The stipend, including the allowance for the Communion, is 72 bolls barley and oats, and £52 10s. sterling. The manse and glebe, which is about 5 acres, are at Kineadur, a mile eastward from the Church. At this place also is the burying-ground of the old parish, where the vestiges of the Castle, where the Bishop resided before that of Spynie was built, still remain. The burial-ground is also continued in the parish of Oguestown, where a magnificent tomb in the Gothic style is raised over the vault of the family of Gordonstown.\*

\* On a rising ground, immediately to the eastward of the House of Gordonston, stood the Parish Church of Ogston, with its old churchyard. On the site of the old church, in the year 1705, Dame Elizabeth Dunbar, widow of Sir Robert Gordon, 3rd Baronet of Gordonston, nicknamed "the Warlock," erected an elegant mausoleum to the memory of her husband, who had died the previous year, and to his predecessors in the estate. She was the only child and heiress of Sir William Dunbar of Hempriggs, by whom she had three sons and four daughters. She married for her second husband the Hon. James Sutherland, second son of James, second Lord Duffus, by whom she had also a family. He assumed the name of Dunbar, and was created a Baronet, and the large estates of the Dunbar family in Caithness were settled on the heir-males of the second marriage.

There are various monuments in the mausoleum besides the tablet of the family of Gordonston. The Altyre family has been interred here since the death of Sir Alexander Penrose Gordon Cuming in 1806. (Ed.)



At the Parochial School there are about 60 scholars instructed in writing, arithmetic, reading English and Latin. The school salary is 12 bolls of barley, and £3 sterling from the office of Session-clerk, besides the other perquisites and fees of parochial schools.

The fund for the provision of the poor does not exceed £20 sterling yearly; from which the salary of the clerk and beadle being deducted, the balance contributes to the support of about 50 poor. The whole inhabitants are members of the Established Church, amounting to about 1040.

*Miscellaneous Information.*—The village of Lossiemouth is the harbour of the town of Elgin. A Process carried on by Bishop Bar, respecting the right of this port, was incidentally mentioned at pages 337, 338, vol. I. It appears to have been begun by his lordship's arresting a ship, the property of two of the burgesses. The narrative in the 92nd fol. of the *Chart Mor.* sets forth, "That on Sunday the 7th of June, while the Lord Bishop was passing from his castle at Kineadur towards the Church of Urquhart, through his water of Lossie, at the ford called Krannokissi, he found a certain barque, namely "Farcost," lying in his said water, near the sea; to which coming, he asked at the only person who was found on board what the ship was called, to whom it appertained, and by whose permission it had entered that water, who replied, The barque "Farcost" was John de Lany's, and had entered there by the burgesses of Elgin; to whom the Bishop said, that neither the burgesses, nor any other, could grant such authority or permission, for that water and the whole channel was the property of the Church of Moray, and appertained to him, and to no other person, and on that account desired that a pledge might be given him in name of arresting the said barque. That a little axe was handed to the Lord Bishop, which, as only a pledge, the seaman requested, in name of his master, might be returned, which the Bishop granted on the condition of its being restored upon demand.

"Likewise on the same day, in the year 1383, in the month above-mentioned, the same Bishop, returning by the same road, found at the said barque certain burgesses of Elgin, namely Philip Byset and Henry Porter, taking

out of the ship some barrels of ale, and some sacks of tallow, and some of meal of wheat, together with horses and sledges standing upon his ground of Kineadur, which, together with the ship, he by his own proper authority arrested, as unwarrantably encroaching upon his Church lands, and gave up the same in pledge, at the instance of the said Philip requesting it, in the name of the community of his burgh, to be remitted to the said Bishop at his Cathedral, upon eight days' requisition, there to receive the issue and termination which the laws have been in use to grant."

It must be presumed, that the Bishop prevailed in establishing his claim, which accordingly became a pertinent of the estate of Kineadur, and was only purchased by the magistracy of Elgin in the year 1698. In the Conveyance it is described as a piece of waste, barren, unmanured ground, and was nearly 80 acres of naked gravel and sand, with an allowance on the quarries of the Coulard, for the restricted purpose of building and upholding the pier, and for the accommodations requisite for the town of Lossiemouth; for which the community became bound to pay yearly £2 1s. 7d., subjecting the inhabitants of Lossiemouth to be poinded for any arrears that may be incurred; and to the courts of the superior, which he may hold either in the town or at the Burn of Kineadur, for any riot happening either among themselves or with the superior's tenants of the barony; and to send a burgess of Elgin yearly to the head court, upon the first Thursday after Michaelmas, to answer in their name; and to allow the accommodation of the harbour to all ships and fishing boats appertaining to the superior, or freighted by any merchant upon his account, or employed by him for exportation or importation, without payment of any dues to the community. Besides irregular streets fronting towards the sea, the town is laid out into four principal streets at right angles to the shore, each 42 feet wide, and commodious lanes cutting across the streets, equal to half their breadth, with a handsome square and cross in the midst. There are 175 feus marked off on the plan, each 120 by 180 feet, granted for the duty of 5s. each; but many remain to be taken, and many that have been granted are not yet built; but a number also of handsome houses of two and three stories, containing

more than 200 inhabitants, have been erected. The harbour is sufficiently commodious for vessels about 80 tons burden. The community say that, prior to the year 1780, £1200 sterling had been expended in the formation of the quay; since that time a pier opposite on the other side the river, for clearing out the sand off the bar, has been erected at the expense of £2000 sterling, from the funds of the town, aided by private subscription and a donation of £200 sterling from the Convention of Burghs. The land end of this new pier was left unfinished, and unable to withstand the violence of winter storms. So much unheeded ruination has befallen it that £200 sterling at present would be insufficient to prevent its accelerating subversion. There is only one sloop and two fishing boats belonging to Lossiemouth; but during one year 49 vessels from 55 to 60 tons arrived, of which loaded with English coals were 20; Scots coals, 6; London goods, 10; Leith goods, 4; tanner's bark, 3; native salt, 2; bottles, slates, iron, lime, each one, 4; total, 49.

The exports were 20 cargoes barley and oats, each at an average about 400 bolls, and an inconsiderable quantity of peltry. There are two other creeks in the parish, Stotfield and Covesea, which admit boats. On the estate of Kineadur are 3 fishing boats, each yielding a yearly rent of £5 sterling; but every seventh year the landlord is obliged to furnish a new boat, which, rigged complete, costs about £20 sterling. The fish commonly caught are cod, skate, hollibut, haddocks, whittings, saiths, and crabs, but none in greater quantity than serves the consumption of the country. Of late, however, a lobster fishery has been undertaken in the bay of Stotfield by an English Company for the London market, to which they are transported alive, in wells formed in the bottom of the ships, which communicate directly with the sea water. 60,000 were in this manner conveyed the first summer, without any other precaution except tying their claws to their sides. They are caught by bait in small iron traps, though a simple invention, yet never used before on this coast.

In the Coulard Hill there are appearances of lead; many detached masses of ore are to be seen in the northern side of the hill, where the rock is limestone. Some adventurers, however, from England, several years ago,



after expending about £500, could discover no vein worth working. But the greater part of the Coulard, with almost the whole of the ridge along the Covesea shore, consists of one uninterrupted mass of freestone, lying in horizontal strata, differing in thickness and in hardness; one kind being white, of a smooth, compact, and firm substance, yet readily yielding to the hammer or the chisel; the other kind more brown or yellow, softer and more friable. There are about 20 masons and nearly 40 labourers constantly employed in quarrying and cutting stone to supply the demand from this and the neighbouring countries. The western part of this ridge, upon the Covesea coast, forms a very bold shore. The penetrating power of the surge in winter storms, with the reiterated play of the ocean, and the various whirl of the rebounding wave upon the projecting cliffs of the freestone rock, have formed several detached pyramids, towers, and arches, of various height and form, in some places resembling the broken, shapeless windows in a Gothic ruin, having the sea boiling round their bases at each flow of the tide. Under this hill also there is a number of caverns of whose formation it is difficult to conjecture the origin, without supposing the sea at some period to have been so much higher on the coast as to have in secret wrought out the softer materials, which might have originally filled these shapeless vacuities. They all open directly to the sea; and it is likely that some of them may extend back to the land side of the hill, as their dark recesses have never been explored. Some of them are lofty even from the entrance, and their bounds everywhere readily determinable; others, with a low entrance, become gloomily lofty, and uncomfortably damp within; others are low, dismal, dark, and damp, throughout all their windings. Neither the floor or roof of any are on the same level; some of the lightest are used as a shelter by the stone-cutters, both from the heat and rain, and are in part filled by the chips and fragments. One of them was occupied as a stable to conceal the horses of the family of Gordonstown from the rebels in the year 1745, and has the entrance built up into a neat door. Another, behind the village of Lossiemouth, had in ancient times been formed into a small hermitage, not exceeding 12 feet square. It was completed by a handsome Gothic door

and window, and commanded a long but a solitary view along the eastern shore. These artificial decorations were torn down about 30 years ago, by a rude shipmaster; and in the course of working the quarries, the whole cave has been destroyed.

There was a fountain in the rock above the hermitage, called St. Gerardine's [Gernadius'] Well; but neither this nor any other spring in the parish has acquired fame for medicinal virtue.

The inhabitants, like all others employed in husbandry, are robust and healthy. They are in general a sober, honest, peaceable people, regular in their attendance on the ordinances of religion, rather grave than lively, seldom indulging themselves in any relaxation or diversion. Crimes of enormity are unknown among them; but this regularity of conduct must be in part ascribed to the poverty and depression of the people; for the situation of the smaller tenants in general is not comfortable. Few of them have any capital to set them out into the world, and fewer have the inclination or the means of adopting the modern improvements of husbandry, while the rents and the wages of servants have of late been considerably advanced. The women spin linen yarn, by which, with the greatest application, they can only earn 3d. by the day. Even this yarn, what is necessary for home consumption excepted, is exported unwrought to Edinburgh, Glasgow, or the north of England.] (*Survey of the Province of Moray.*)

#### THE FAMILY OF GORDONSTOUN.

Sir Robert Gordon, the first of Gordonstoun, was second son of Alexander, 15th Earl of Sutherland. He was a gentleman much and deservedly respected. [In May, 1625, he was created a Knight Baronet of the Order of Nova Scotia, with precedence of all the Knights of that Order. He was a bearer of the King's train at the Coronation, High Sheriff of Inverness, a Commissioner to Zetland, and historian of the House of Suther-



land.] In the year 1606 he was made Gentleman of the King's Bed-chamber, with a pension of £200 for life. In the year 1634 he was appointed one of the Lords of the Privy Council of King Charles I., and by the Parliament 1642 was made a Privy Counsellor for life. He married, in 1613, Louisa, only child of John Gordon, Lord of Glenluce, and Dean of Salisbury, by whom he had Ludovick his heir, Robert, ancestor of the Gordons of Clunie, and two daughters; Katharine married to Colonel David Barclay of Urie, by whom she was mother of the ingenious author of the *Apology for the Quakers*; and Jean married to Sir Alexander M'Kenzie of Coull. (2.) Sir Ludovick Gordon of Gordonstoun, Baronet [was educated in Holland and], succeeded his father, Sir Robert, in 1656 [and ornamented the estate with canals, terraces, and avenues]. He married Elizabeth, daughter and co-heiress of Sir Robert Farquhar of Mounie, by whom he had Robert, his heir [four sons], and three daughters; Lucy, married first to Robert Cumine of Altyre; secondly, to Alex. Dunbar of Moy; Katherine married to Thomas Dunbar of Grange; and Elizabeth married to Robert Dunbar of Westfield. They all had issue. (3.) Sir Robert Gordon succeeded his father, Sir Ludovick. By his lady, Elizabeth, only daughter of Sir William Dunbar of Hemprigs, he had Sir Robert, his heir, and a daughter, Lucy, married to David Scott of



Scotstarvet, Esq. (4.) Sir Robert succeeded his father in 1701. He married Agnes, only daughter of Sir William Maxwell of Calderwood, by whom he had two [four (?)] sons, Robert and William, and a daughter, Christian, who died young. (5.) Sir Robert Gordon, the 5th Baronet of Gordonstoun, succeeded his father, Sir Robert, in 1772. [He died a bachelor in 1776, and was succeeded by his brother, William, who settled his estate on Cumming of Altyre. He died a bachelor in 1795, when the title devolved upon Sir James Gordon of Letterfourie, and the estates fell to Sir Alexander Penrose Gordon Cumming of Altyre.]—*Ed.*

Arms of the family of Gordonstoun. Quarterly 1st and 4th grand quarters, the quartered coat of Gordon, 2nd and 3rd Gules, three stars Or, all within a border of the last. In the centre of the shield the badge of NOVA SCOTIA. Crest, a cat, a mountain saliant, argent, armed azure. Motto, SANS CRAINTE. [Fearless.] Supporters on the dexter, a deerhound argent, collared Gules, and thereon three buckles Or. And in the finister, a savage wreathed about the head and middle with laurel proper.

In the year 1621 Sir William Alexander of Menstry undertook to plant a colony in Nova Scotia, in North America, and was joined in that undertaking by the Earls Marshal, Melrose, and Niddisdale, Viscount Dupplin, and the lairds of Lochinvar, Lesmore, Clunie, and Gordonstoun. For their encouragement the King granted them severally large districts of land in that country, and proposed to create a new title of honour that

should be hereditary. This Order was erected in 1625, and Sir Robert Gordon is the first Knight of it, whose Patent beareth date at Whitehall the 28 May, 1625.

*Knights Baronets.*

Having perused this Patent, I shall set down the honours and privileges granted to Knights in Scotland, and (1.) In all writings they are styled Knights and Baronets. (2.) In addressing them, they are called *Sir*. (3.) Their wives have the honour of *Lady*. (4.) They have precedency of all Knights, Lairds, Esquires, and Gentlemen, except the King's Commissioners, Counsellors, and Knights Bannerets, dubbed in the field of war under the Royal Standard, *Rege Presente*. (N.B.—The Order of the Thistle or St. Andrew was not revived at that time.) (5.) Their wives, sons, daughters, and sons' wives have precedency as themselves have. (6.) Their eldest sons, when 21 years of age, in their father's life, shall receive the honour of Knighthood, if they askit, upon paying only the fees of the servants. (7.) In Royal armies they shall have place near to the Royal Standard. (8.) No other degree of honour shall ever be created betwixt them and Lords, nor any degree equal to them and inferior to Lords. (9.) The honour is by patent under the Great Seal, and hereditary as that of Peerage. (10.) There shall not be in Scotland at any one time more



than 150 such Knights. (11.) They may bear the arms of NOVA SCOTIA in a Canton, or Shield of pretence; and the same enamelled on an oval medal of gold on their breasts, hanging at a broad orange ribband round their necks; as by Royal Warrant from King Charles I. dated at Whitehall 17 November, 1629, and recorded in the Lord Lyon's Registers. (12.) They are allowed two gentlemen-assistants of their body, *ad supportandum velamen* (to bear their robe); and at their funerals they are allowed one principal mourner and four assistants.

Besides these privileges common to the Order, Sir Robert Gordon's Patent beareth, That he is the First Knight in the Order, and that no one has had, or ever shall have, the precedency of him. And he had 16,000 acres of land in Nova Scotia disposed to him and his heirs, with ample privileges. The like privileges had also the rest of the Baronets, till the French took possession of that province; after which there is no mention of lands in any of the Patents.

The arms of this Order are:—An escutcheon arg. charged with a saltire, az. The field and cross of St. Andrews, the tinctures counterchanged, and thereon the Royal Arms of Scotland, with an imperial crown above this last shield. Motto, FAX MENTIS HONESTÆ GLORIA. [Glory is the torch of an honourable spirit.] This (without the motto) may be placed in a canton, or a shield in surtout.



*Ettles and Covesea.*

["The lands of Ettles and fyshing, called the Coissey," were granted by Patrick, Bishop of Moray, to Thomas Innes of Pethnick and Elizabeth Norie, his spouse, and to the heirs-male of the said Thomas. The Charter is dated at Elgin and Drainie the 8th and 18th May, 1561, and is signed by the Bishop and twelve of the Canons of the Cathedral, their seals being also appended. Thomas Innes of Pethnick, grandson of the above Thomas, sold the lands and fishings on the 17th September, 1638, to Sir Robert Gordon.

*Names of the Inneses of Pethnick.*

1st, Thomas; 2nd, Alexander, his son; 3rd, Thomas, his son, who sold Ettles and Covesea.

*King's Third of Duffus.*

The changes of proprietors on this estate will be best shown by the following titles:—

1. Charter of alienation by Archibald Douglas of Pittendreich, in favour of Alexander Gordon of Sydra (Siddaray in Sutherland), and Margaret Keith, his spouse, of the third of Duffus, dated 21st May, 1603. The sasine following thereupon is dated 24th May same year.

2. Charter granted by Archibald Douglas of Pittendreich, in favour of Alexander Keith, lawful son of Mr. John Keith, Rector of Duffus, of the third of Blackgate; third of Starwood; third of Inchkeil; third of Roseisle, with the milns thereof; third of Burghsea; third of Bagro; third of Burnside; third of Over and Nether Crookmuirs; and third of Sheriffmill, with the astricted multures thereof, dated 24th May, 1603. The seisin following thereon is of same date.

3. Bond of alienation, Alexander Gordon of Sydra, and Margaret Keith, his spouse, in favour of Sir Robert Gordon, of the third part of the Kirktown of Duffus, Crosslots, and Saltcots, dated 2nd June, 1629. The seisin following thereupon is dated 6th June same year.

4. Minute of sale, dated 11th June, 1647, at Inverurie, by Alexander Keith of Midbeltie, son of the deceased Alexander Keith, portioner of Duffus, in favour of Sir Robert Gordon, of his share of the King's Third of Duffus, and third of Sheriffmill, and of the Outletmill.

5. Contract of sale betwixt Sir Ludovick Gordon, his son,

and Robert Sutherland in Burghsea, whereby, for £2,830 Scots, they dispone the lands of Easter Inchkeil, and third of the Burgh, to the said Robert Sutherland, 9th March, 1670.

*Ogston and Plewland.*

The lands of Ogston and Plewland are the particular part of the estate of Gordonstown where the venerable mansion-house stands. Before the Gordons purchased the estate it was called the Bog of Plewland, and no doubt was a fortalice, built in the marsh for defence. The estate was long held in property by the Hogstouns, or Ogstons of that ilk; from them it passed to the Inneses of Innes and Balveny, thereafter to the Marquis of Huntly, and from the Marquis was purchased by Sir Robert Gordon on 13th September, 1638. The following curious inventory of titles, as well as the references to the other portions of the estate of Gordonstown, were communicated to me by a friend, to whom I am indebted for many similar favours:—

The Inventor of the wrytes of Hogstoune and Plewlands, delyverit be Robert Innes, then of Innermarkie, nowe of Balveny, to ane nobill and potent Lord George, Marquis of Huntlye, at Plewlandis the 7th of Februar, 1616 yeiris.

*Imprimis*, Ane charter given be Marjerie Countess of Murraye, to Jhon Hogstoune of that ilk, sone and lawfull air to Sir Rannald Hogstoune, his father, daitit at Bamf, 6th May, 1417.

*Item*, Ane precept of seasing of Allexander Hogstoune of that ilk, given to James Innes of that ilk, upon the landis of Hogstoune, of the dait, at Aberdeen, 29th December, 1473.

*Item*, Ane reversion given be the said James Innes of that ilk, to the said Allexander Hogstoune of that ilk, of the dait forsaid.

*Item*, Ane license given be the King to Allexander Hogstoune of that ilk, fra him and his airis, all and hail, the lands of Hogstoune, to whatsoever persone he pleasis, to be halden of himselfe.

*Item*, The gift of nonentrie, given to Alexander Livingstoune of Dunnipeass, upon the landis of Hogstoune and Plewlandis, of the dait at Perth, 15th March, 1527.

*Item*, Ane seasing of James Innes of that ilk, given to Allexander Hogstoune of that ilk, upon the landis of Hogstoune, dated 12th Januar, 1473.

*Item*, Ane seasing of Elizabeth Lady Hogstoune, upon the landis of Hogstoune and Plewlandis, given upon ane precept, dated 8th Januar, 1501.



*Item*, Ane resignation, in the Kingis handes, of the landis of Hogstoun and Plewlandis, be Elizabeth Hogstoun, with consent of hir husband, Adam Habroune, daitit at Edinburgh, 11th Maij, 1501.

*Item*, Ane instrument, wher Adam Habroune was requyrit to enter Robert Innes of Innermarkie in the landis of Hogstoun, daitit 6th May, 1509.

*Item*, Ane precept of seasing, given out of the Chancellrie, to Robert Innes of Innermarkie, and Elizabeth Stuart, his spouse, in lyfrent, and to Robert Innes of Monikebback, his sone, appeirand air heritable of the landis of Hogstoun and Plewlandis, united in one barrony, daitit at Dundee, 1st September, 1539.

*Item*, The charter of union, whereupone the forsaid precept was given under the Grayt Seall, of the landis of Hogstoun and Plewlandis, of the dait of the said precept.

*Item*, The seasing following upone the said charter, of the dait 4th November, 1539.

*Item*, The service of Adam Habroun's three daughters, Janat, Helein, and Isobell, before the Shirrefe of Elgin, daitit the penult of Februar, 1527.

*Item*, Ane charter of Andro Oliphant of Berridel, sone and air of umqll. Christen Suderland of Berridel, given to William Suderland of Duffus, of the third pairt of the landis of Plewlandis, of the dait at Edinburgh, 10th November, 1528.

*Item*, Ane precept of seasing, passit thereupone.

*Item*, Ane instrument taine be Robert Innes, in the handis of Mr. William Jamisone, notar, daitit 1st September, 1539.

*Item*, Ane resignation of Elizabeth Habroune, eldest daughter, and ane of the heiris, of Adam Habroune of Craigies, and spouse to Mr. Alexander Livingstoun of Dunnipeass, of the landis of Hogstoun and Plewlandis, in the Kingis hands, in favours of Robert Innes of Innermarkie, and Elizabeth Stuart, his spouse, and to Robert Innes of Monykebbock, their sone and appeirand air, daitit at Inglismaldie, 15th August, 1539.

*Item*, Ane sasine given be Robert Innes of Innermarkie, and his spouse, Elizabeth Stuart, and his son, of Monykebbock, upon the landis of Hogestoun and Plewlandis, under the subscription of Mr. William Jamisone, notar, daitit 4th Nov., 1539.

*Item*, Ane saising of Robert Innes of Innermarkie, guidisir to Robert Innes, now of Balveny, of the landis of Hogstoun and Plewlandis, under the subscription of Mr. Alexander Dowglasse, notar, daitit 29th Maii, 1553.

*Item*, Ane instrument of saising to Robert Innes, father to Robert Innes, now of Balveny, upon the landis of Hogestoun



and Plewlandis, under the subscriptione of James Guthrie, notar, 21st Majj, 1586.

*Item*, The Kingis confirmatione and ratificatione of ane charter of alienatione, maid to Jeane Barclaye, Lady of Innermarkie, to Robert Innes, her sone, upon the landis of Plewlandis and Hogestoune, daitit at Edinburgh, 1607.

*Item*, The King's confirmation, containing ane novo damus upon the landis of Hogstoune and Plewlandis, and Kirkhill of Longbryde, to Robert Innes, now of Balveny, and Barbara Burnet, his spouse, daitit at Edinburgh, 21st Februar, 1607.

*Item*, Ane tack of the teinds of Plewlandis and Hogstoune, given be George Douglass, Bishope of Murraye, with consent of the Dean and Chapter, to Robert Innes of Innermarkie, father to Robert Innes, now of Balveny, daitit at Spyny, the first and last of Majj, 1585.

*Item*, Ane tack of the teind sheaves of Hogstoune and Plewlandis, sett be Allexander Douglass, Bischope of Murraye, to Robert Innes, now of Balveny, and to Barbra Burnet, his spouse, in lyfrent, and nynteen yeir thereafter, daitit at Elgin, 10th Marche, 1607.

*Item*, Ane extract of ane proper contract between the Laird of Innermarkie and the Laird of Innes, on the landis of Hogstoune and Plewlandis, and heirschipe of Innes, daitit at Edinburgh, 9th Marche, 1635.

Which baill wrytes, according to the inventer foresaid, subscribit be us, George, Marquis of Huntlye, and Robert Innes of Balvenye. We, George Marquis of Huntlye, grant us to have receavit fra the said Robert, and bindis and oblissis us, and our aires and successoures, to make patent and furthecomminge to the said Robert, his aires and successoures, for defence of the saidis landis of Hogstoune and Plewlandis, as the said Robert and his forsaidis sall be persewit for warrandice of the said landis. In witness wherof we have subscribit thir presents, at Plewlandis the 17th of Februar, Jmvi and sixteen yeires, befor thir witnes, ALEXANDER GORDON, Fiar of Strathawon; Mr. WILLIAM GORDON of Tilligrigie; JAMES GORDON, in Letterfurie; and Mr. ALEXANDER INNES of Dalliestennie.

(Sic subscribitur), HUNTLYE.  
ROBERT INNES of Balvenie.

A. GORDOUN, Witnes.

J. GORDOUN, Witnes.

The original Document is at Gordonstown, and the Minute of Contract of sale by which the Marquis of Huntly sold these lands to Sir Robert Gordon, dated 13th September, 1638, is also there. The Marquis subsequently

sold to Sir Robert the lands of Balormie, which his Lordship seems to have purchased in 1615 from the Douglasses of Whittingham.] (*Young's Parish of Spynie.*)

#### EPITAPHS IN THE CHURCHYARD OF KINNEDAR.

Like Birnie, Kinnedar was one of the early residences and churches of the Bishops of Moray. It was a parsonage belonging to the Treasurer of the Diocese. Here is an ancient Cross. The Bishop's residence was a castle, the remains of which, close to the burial-ground, may yet be discerned. It seems to have been their only residence before the building of Spynie, as almost all the charters are dated at "Kineder in Moravia" before the erection of the great palace.

An interesting circumstance, the frequency of the names Winchester and Wiseman on the stones, is worthy of notice; for in the Bishop's rental, 1565, of 10 tenants in the Villa de Kynnedam are 5 Wisemans and 1 Winchester. Richard Wiseman had also the Bishop's garden there for a yearly rent of 8s. and 6 capons. As mentioned when treating of Drainy, this parish was merged 1666.

Not only is the churchyard remarkable for its Cross, but the immense number of stones is particularly worthy of notice. Literally dozens of very old flat monuments cover the surface. Scarcely any, in comparison to numbers, can be read, here a word and there another is all that can be made out. They seem all to be inscriptions running round the edge of the stone. No trace of the old church remains, only the appearance of a deplored centre. (*Rev. J. B. Craven.*)

I. . . . . son to Alex. Rushel, joyner, . . . . . departed 15 June, 1676.

II. Here lyes . . . . . to Wm. Young, in Newton, . . . . . 1688.

III. Here lyes Janet Mavor, spouse to . . . . Winchester, . . . . died the 20 March, 1689.

IV. Here lyes Christian . . . . . spouse to Walter James, indweller in Etis, she departed . . . .

V. Here lyes the body of Mitchell, some time dueller in Plenton. He died the 15 day of May, 1706.



VI. Here lyes James Badon, some time . . . . . Christian James, his spouse.

J. B.

C. F.

VII. Here lyes the dust of William Winchester, some time du . . . . . dyed the . . . of Nov. . . . .

VIII. Here lyes the body of Alex. Stephen, some time dualer in Kinedar. He died the 6 day of September, in the year 1713.

IX. W. Y.

A. Y.

1711.

X. Here lyes the body of Margaret Elies, spouse to James Anderson, farmer in . . . . . ned, who died January . . . 1715, and their children, John and Jean Anderson, who died in their nonage.

XI. Here lyes the body of John Anderson, some time farmer in . . . . . who died June 8, 1729, and his spouse, Jean Baird.

XII. Here lyes the body of James Edwards . . . . . his spouse, some time duellers in Stotfield, 1713.

J. E.

M. J.

XIII. Here lyes the body of Charley Anderson, some time dweller in Aikenhead, who died the 24 of August, 1722.

XIV. Here lyes the body . . . . . died the 11 day of the 1729. . . . . Anderson, his spouse, and their son, John Laing, died Dec. 16, 1738, aged 28.

XV. Here lyes . . . . . William Innes, skipper in Stotfield. He died February, 1739.

XVI. Under this ston lyes the dust of Michael Findlay, who was church officer in this parish of Kinedar, who departed this life the 13 of October, 1745, aged 67.

XVII. This stone is erected in memory of William James, farmer in Ardonit, who dyd Decr., 1753, and H . . . . .

XVIII. Here lyes the body of Isobel Ritchie, spouse to Peter Stuart, in Kinedar, who died August 23, 1739.

XIX. . . . . James Brander, farmer in . . . . . their son, John Brander, he died August 6th, 1742, and Janet Brander, who died Sept. the 5, 1768, aged 13 years.

J.B.

G.B.

XX. Here lyes the body of James Edward, late skipper in Stotfield, who dyed the 13 May, 1774, aged 72 years, and his spouse, Jean Mitchell, dyed 25 May, 1765, aged 66 years.



## EPITAPHS IN THE CHURCHYARD OF OGSTON.

When you stand in the old churchyard of Drainy and look up to the top of the little hill above it, you may see a vane peeping out of the wooded summit. This is the mausoleum of the Gordonston family, placed above what was once the old church of Ogston. Undoubtedly we owe to this burial-place the continuance of the very old yard surrounding it. When you arrive at the top of the hill, to which there is no proper road, and enter through the trees, you find yourself at the gable end of the mausoleum. Very possibly others as well as I may go, never thinking of finding anything more. Even the name has been forgotten, and you are informed that it is Michael Kirk. Whence this name is derived I know not, as the Church was not dedicated to St. Michael but to St. Peter. I was surprised to find not the vault only but several huge ancient tombstones surrounding it; though, from there being no fence, it could scarcely be called a cemetery; but when I next saw the fine old Cross standing alone, I felt sure that this place was set apart for holy prayer long before the earliest stone. Surely this must be Ogston, I said to myself, but I had no direct information. I looked up all the books in my possession and found no trace of any remains of Ogston. Even one author seemed to say that this place was *only* for the Gordonstons' tomb. Months afterward, however, I fell on the "Survey of Moray," quoted before, and my delight was great when I saw there, "The burial-ground is also continued in the parish of Oggestown, where a magnificent tomb in the Gothic style is raised over the vault of the family of Gordonstown." The identity was complete and I was now at no difficulty to name this very ancient, dilapidated, and deserted churchyard. One might think the noble family ought to preserve these venerable relics better; for when wishing to copy the inscriptions on the old stones I found it at first impossible, for the simple reason that perhaps, when the last burial had taken place, the turf sod had been conveniently placed on the top of the stones where the inscriptions were, and it was only with difficulty that those could be cleared off; for, so firmly fixed was the matter into the turf, that when at last I had them off, the stones seemed as if they had only been carved lately, and

the sods themselves might have served the purpose of a plaster cast.

We have already spoken of the holy St. Gernadius who in the shire not far off loved and taught the people. A few particulars, all indeed we know surely of his history, has to be added. The author of the "Survey" says a cave "behind the village of Lossiemouth had, in ancient times, been formed into a small hermitage, not exceeding 12 feet square. It was completed by a handsome Gothic door and window, and commanded a long but a solitary view along the eastern shore. These artificial decorations were torn down about 30 years ago (1760) by a rude shipmaster; and in the course of working the quarries the whole cave has been destroyed. There was a fountain in the rock above the hermitage, called St. Gerardine's Well." This interesting account corresponds exactly with the "Aberdeen Breviary," which describes the holy saint to have lived between Elgin and the sea in a cave partly artificial, partly natural. Were the Crosses at Kinnedar and Ogston the places where he preached to the people here? He was celebrated in the Scottish Church on the 8th November.

It was a mensal church, and one of the smallest vicarages in the Deanery of Elgin. Indeed so small was it then, in 1642, it was disunited from St. Andrews, both before having been served by one vicar, "that the Bishop might draw more teinds," as Shaw somewhat uncharitably says. This was nothing but an offensive remark, which he might have left out of his book, as it was entirely groundless; for the author of the "Survey" tells us a circumstance which shows the real state of matters. When the lake of Spynie was being cleared off "a causeway emerged, formed of freestone from the quarry, quite across the lake, with openings for the passage of the water, each about 3 feet wide, covered with broad flag-stones. This revived the recollection of a circumstance there almost forgotten, that the causeway was called the Bishop's Steps, and had been formed by his order to allow his vicar to get from St. Andrews after the service of the forenoon to officiate at Oguestown on the evening of each Sunday." Expense, therefore, could not have been the motive, but probably the scarcity of preachers was. These parishes were united from the Reformation probably till



1642, when they were annexed to Kinnedar. (*Rev. J. B. Craven.*)

I. The Gordonstoun Monument, &c. :—

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Here is a register of the age and death of considerable persons of the family of Gordonstoun here interred :—

Dam Genewieu Petau, the daughter of Gideon Petau, Lord of the Isle of France, widow of John Gordon, Lord of Glenluce and Dean of Salisbury, and mother-in-law to Robert Gordon of Gordonstoun, died December 6, 1643, in the 83 year of her age. Sir Robert Gordon of Gordonstoun, son to the Earl of Sutherland, by my Lady Jean Gordon, daughter to the Earl of Huntly, died March, 1656, aged 77 years. D. Lucia Gordon, his lady, daughter to John Gordon, Lord of Glenluce and Dean of Salisbury, by D. Genewieu Pelau, died 7ber, 1680, aged 83 years. Mrs. Katherine Gordon, daughter of Sir Robert Gordon of Gordonstoun, and spous to Collionel David Barclay of Urie, died March, 1663, aged 43 years. Mr. Charles Gordon, son to Sir Robert Gordon, died , 1674, aged 43 years. D. Jean Gordon, daughter to Sir Robert Gordon, and spouse to Sir Alexander M'Kenzie of Coul, died , 1676, aged 43 years. Mrs. Lucia Gordon, daughter to Sir Robert Gordon, died before her father, unmarried, about ye 18 year of hir age. Sir Ludovick Gordon of Gordonstoun, son to Sir Robert Gordon, by D. Lucia Gordon, died December 1668, aged 63 years. D. Elizabeth Farquhar, his 1st lady, daughter to Sir Robert Farquhar of Menie, by D. Elizabeth Buck, died November, 1661, aged 38 years. Mrs. Anna Gordon, daughter to Sir Ludovick Gordon, died unmarried. Alexander Gordon, son to Sir Ludovick Gordon, died 1666. Benjamin Gordon, son to Sir Ludovick Gordon, died 1662. Ludovick Gordon, son to Sir Ludovick Gordon, died Sher, 1696, aged 43 years. Sir Robert Gordon of Gordonstoun, son to Sir Ludovick Gordon, by D. Elizabeth Farquhar, died 5 of Sher, 1704, aged 57 years. D. Margaret Forbes, his 1st lady, daughter to my Lord Forbes, by Mrs. Jean Campbell, his spouse, 1677. William Gordon, son to Sir Robert Gordon, by Elizabeth Dunbar, daughter to Sir William Dunbar of Hempriggs, died 18 March, 1701. Mrs. Margaret Gordon, daughter to Sir Robert Gordon, by D. Elizabeth Dunbar, died 16 March, 1703, aged 10 years. Mrs. Katherine Gordon, daughter to Sir Robert Gordon, by D. Elizabeth Dunbar, died 18 March, 1705, aged 39 years. Mrs. Elizabeth Gordon, daughter to Sir Robert Gordon, by D.



Elizabeth Dunbar, died 8 December, 1705. Lucy, daughter of Sir Robert Gordon and Dame Elizabeth Dunbar, married David Scott of Scotstarvet. Sir Robert Gordon, son of Sir Robert Gordon and Dame Elizabeth Dunbar, born 1696, died 1772; married, 1734, Agnes, daughter of Sir William Maxwell of Calderwood, Baronet. Dame Agnes Maxwell died at Lossiemouth 11th March, 1808. Sir Robert Gordon, eldest son of Sir Robert Gordon and Dame Agnes Maxwell, born 1736, died unmarried 2nd June 1776. He was succeeded by his brother, Sir William Gordon, born 1738, died in Edinburgh unmarried 5th March, 1795. Lewis and John, younger sons, left no issue. A daughter, Christian, died young.

II. The Gordonstoun Monument, No. 2:—

In memory of those of the family of Altyre, whose mortal remains lie in the vault beneath. Sir. Alex. Penrose Cumming Gordon, Bt., born 19 May, 1749, m. 9th Sept., 1773. Helen, 5th daughter of Sir Ludovick Grant of Grant, Bt., by Lady Margaret Ogilvie, eldest daughter of James, Earl of Findlater and Seafield, succeeded to the Gordonstoun estates on the death of Sir William Gordon, Bart., 1794, died 11 Feby., 1804. Dame Helen, his spouse, born 29 May, 1754, died 1 January, 1832. They had issue, 7 sons and 9 daughters, of whom Jane, Mary, and Amelia, lie in the vault beneath.

III. Here lyes ane honest man, called James Dick, mason, sumtym indualler in Rewland, who departed this mortail lyf the 9 of Agvest, 1661.

IV. Here lyes the body of John Dick, mason, who lived in Pleuland, and died the 22 of Jully, 1692; and Christian Innes, his spous, died the 7 of July, 1694; and their son, John Dick, who died Feb. 1727.

V. Here lyes Christian Dick, spouse to Alex. Sinclair, mason, Causea, who departed this life the last of October, the year of God 1697.

VI. Here lyes the body of James Chalmer, sometime Causea. He died the 18 of December, 1706, and his spouse, Margaret Neillson.

VII. John Macdonald. Elspet Robertson. 1740.

THE PARISH OF DUFFUS

(*Dubh-wis*, i.e., black or stagnating water) lieth west of Kinnedar, between the Loch of Spynie

and the sea. It extendeth about 3 miles from east to west, and 1 mile from south to north.

The Church standeth in the east end, a mile west of Kinnedar,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles north-west of New Spynie, and 3 miles north-east of Alves. The whole parish (except a small feu pertaining to Sutherland of Keam) is the property of the Duke of Gordon, Sir Robert Gordon of Gordonston, and of Alexander Dunbar of Thunderton. This last has far the greater share, and resides here. His seat is close by the Church. The house is neat, convenient, and well finished, and the gardens, avenues, and enclosures are well laid out.

A half mile south-east stood the house and fort of old Duffus (*Vid. Milit. Hist.*), and 2 miles west is the Burgh-head, a remarkable Danish fort (*Vid. Milit. Hist.*), close by which is the village of the Burgh-Sea, where Gordonston and Thunderton have a good fishing of white fish, upon which the town of Elgin have a servitude, whereby the fish must be brought to their market. Here about 300 people live by fishing, and have no corn land and little garden ground. At this village there is a good harbour for small craft. And I cannot but observe that the people on the coast westward having plucked up the bent-grass on some small hills, the loose sand is driven so thick by the west wind, that much land in Duffus and Gordonston has been covered by it; but of late years there has not been much hurt done in



this way, the strata on these hills becoming probably more firm, and the sanded land is again tilled. In this parish there is much freestone and rich quarries of limestone.

#### DUFFUS.

[*Situation, Soil, Climate.*—In every region of the earth where the clime and soil do not spontaneously afford the subsistence of man, it appears, by the earliest notices of history, that society was at first supported chiefly by the means of hunting; that from the hunter state they made in general a sudden advance to that of the pastoral, indispensable to the more perfect state of agriculture.

In a country so narrow as this, it may be presumed that its different quarters, even in the hunter state, would be distinguished by names, which, though not appropriate now, have been without change preserved. The name of Duffus, signifying in the Gaelic *black water*, carries back the imagination to that early state of society when this flat country was an uncultivated forest, almost everywhere deformed by gloomy black pools of stagnate water. The plain between the lake of Spynie and the sea, continued for about 5 miles westward from Drinny, forms the whole extent of the parish of Duffus. Since taking off the water from the lake, it is extended about 3 miles in breadth; but the lake is not continued now far upon the south side, and the ridge along the coast is stretched only about one third of the length, westward of which the shore is sandy and flat, raised only a few feet above the level of the sea. Towards the midst both of the plain and parish, at a little distance from the coast, the green arable hill of Roseisle embellishes the landscape. It is not doubted but the sea once communicated with the lake, along the west and south sides of this eminence, which then formed the termination of the isle, extended eastward to the headland of the Coulard at Lossiemouth. Along the coast, the whole length of the parish, for the breadth of half a mile, may be considered as downs, the soil sandy, mixed with stone, in some places rising in green ridges, composed of limestone rock. Towards the middle of this poor benty pasturage, between the hill of



Roseisle and the sea, some detached fields are cultivated, and one farm, of considerable extent, offers a solitary but commodious and pleasing residence. The rest of the parish is an unbroken arable field, for the greater part a deep rich clay, of the same kind with the carse soil of Gowrie or Falkirk, producing weighty crops of wheat, pease, and beans. Towards its western end, the soil is black earth, very fertile, yielding crops of barley not to be surpassed in earliness, quality, or increase in any part of Scotland. In some places of this quarter the soil is so mixed with sand as to be deprived of much of its fertility, and a great proportion of it hath been deeply covered by dry land, drifted almost ten miles from Coulbin, and its cultivation by man for several generations suspended, except a few small patches, which have of late been recovered by bringing the soil above the sand by the spade.

*State of Property.*—The valued rent of the parish, amounting to £3,120 6s. 1d. Scots, is shared among five proprietors, of whom Sir Archibald Dunbar only is resident, in a handsome modern seat, placed in a small park, sheltered on the north by the Church and the village of Duffus, and on the other three sides bounded by fields and stripes of plantation. It commands an extensive landscape, embellished by every rural decoration. His property in this parish is valued at £1,800 Scots.

A considerable part of the estate of Gordonstown, lately augmented by the purchase of the lands of Roseisle, with which a part of it lay blended, lies also in this parish, amounting now to the valuation of £1,019 Scots.

Mr. Brander of Pitgaveny, as was observed, holds a considerable part of the extent of this parish, but yet so incompletely drained as not to admit of perfect cultivation. It is valued at £244 18s. 11d. Scots. The other two properties are inconsiderable—the one belonging to Mr. Baron Gordon of Clunie is valued at £36 7s. 2d. Scots, and the other appertaining to Mr. Lewis Kay only at £20. The farms are but of small extent, two only exceed 100 acres. A great proportion of the parish is rented at £1 sterling the acre, and the average equals three-fourths of that rate.

*State Ecclesiastical.*—The Church is incommodiously situated in the east end of a parish of such length. The

Burying-place is a small square enclosure around the Church, having a pretty broad road on each of its sides, rather roughly causewayed, but the workmanship of a party of soldiers who were stationed here by Cromwell. The stipend, by decret 1793, is 8 chalders of bear, and £38 6s. 8d. sterling, including the allowance for the Communion. The patronage has been in the possession of Sir Archibald Dunbar and his authors since the year 1527. With the fees for teaching already stated, and the statutory salary as session-clerk, the schoolmaster has an establishment of 7 bolls and nearly 3 firlots of bear, the number of scholars amounting to about 50.

The only provision for the poor arises from the half-pence contributed by the tenants and their families who attend the Parochial Church, amounting to about £14 sterling in the year, which, without expense to the heritors, contributes to the subsistence of about 60 indigent persons, the number enrolled in the lists of the Session.

The members of the Established Church amount to 1,760; there are 30 Episcopalians, who, with a few neighbours from the parishes of Spynie and Alves, have maintained a small meeting ever since it was the national religion; and there are 4 Seceders, of the Antiburgher sect.

There is a small burying-ground at Burgh-head for the accommodation of that village; there was a chapel also there where public worship was long ago performed by the minister of the parish. Two hamlets bear the name of College, namely, Roseisle and Unthank. At the last of these the foundations of the chapel were lately taken up to repair the mill.

*Miscellaneous Information.*—The people, although poor and depressed, are not querulous; they are peaceable and well-disposed; and the dislike of each other, on the account of diversity of religious opinions and modes of worship, has greatly subsided among them. They are sober, and but little addicted to the intemperate use of spirituous liquors.

The village of Burgh-head on the coast, the property of Sir Archibald Dunbar, contains about 400 souls. A small number of the men are quarriers and stone-cutters, but the greater number follow a sea-faring life—7 large boats, with 6 people on board, are hired for the western fishery; 5 of the same kind are employed in freighting commodi-



ties along the coast; 2 sloops, besides, are employed in transporting grain to the south of Scotland, and in bringing back coals; and there are a few small boats employed in fishing. At this village nature has pointed out a station for a deep, capacious, and safe harbour. It could be formed at a moderate expense, the stone just waiting to be cut from the adjoining rock, and, with little precaution, success would be certain. Along the whole southern coast of the Moray Firth, from Buchanness, upwards of 100 miles, to Inverness, there is no good or safe harbour. The advantage, therefore, of this undertaking appears in the strongest light, there being water of any necessary depth, on a fine bottom of blue clay, moss, or sand, and shelter from every dangerous wind. It is nearly at equal distance from Elgin and Forres, and, with a good harbour, it would soon become the port of both towns. Commerce and manufacture would, of consequence, settle in this part of the country, and, with an increasing rise in the value of the neighbouring farms, all the various advantages arising from them would quickly follow. Here at present there is only a fishery, and but of small consideration. Cod, skate, ling, are sold at 1d. and 1½d. the lb. There are also hollibut, mackarel, saith, and whiting. Turbot are on the coast, but the people are not instructed in the art of fishing for them. Haddocks have been for years in fewer numbers, and farther from the land, in deeper water than formerly. They sell at 1d. each, six times dearer than before.

Near the western end of the ridge along the shore, where the rocks rise to a great height, the foundation of a Castle called Inverugie remains. It was occasionally the residence of the family of Marischal, who once held the third part of the property of the parish, and was named after their chief seat in Buchan. It appears that in this parish many battles had in former times been fought. Burying-ground is to be found about almost every hamlet, and in many of them skeletons of human bodies have been accidentally dug up, and this has given rise to many fairy hillocks and grounds where witches met together.

Near the western end of the parish there had been a place of worship at a farm called Kirkhill, where the remains of the cross and some of the buildings are still visible.



In several places are indications of iron ore and coal. All the water seems surcharged with iron, and in one field, near Duffus House, there is a strong chalybeate spring, near to which appears a black hard earth, mixed with stone resembling the refuse of a forge.

Although now there is no natural wood in the parish, yet from old tradition, and from rotten logs of wood found in the corn fields and pastures throughout the whole lower grounds, and even in the stiffest clay soil, this part of the country must have once been an entire forest of different kinds of timber—oak, aller, birch, hazel, and fir; and it is reported that the oppressed inhabitants were compelled by the Danes to carry oak from the valley near Roseisle to build their ships at Burghhead.] (*Survey of the Province of Moray.*)

[*Duffus Castle* is about 4 miles north of Elgin and 2 miles west of Spynie Castle. It was built in the reign of David II., and was long the seat of the family of Sutherland, who bore the peerage title of Lords Duffus from 1650 till 1843. One of its earliest possessors, and probably its founder, was Freskinus de Moravia, whose family became conspicuous in Moray in the reign of David I. Bishop Bricius founded a Chapel here early in the 13th century, and we find from the Chartulary that Mary de Federith, an heiress of the house of De Moravia, held possession of it from 1269 till 1312. The Castle stood on an elevated mound on the north-western shore of the Loch of Spynie, now drained. A deep moat surrounded it, with a parapet-wall and drawbridge. For several miles circumambient no elevation surpassed it. From the low-lying marshy state of the ground it was peninsular, and thus well secured against foes. At page 108 of Rhind's *Sketches of Moray* there is given an etching of the Castle of Duffus in 1839, surrounded picturesquely with clumps of trees. The walls are of rude workmanship, a considerable portion of which still remains on the west side; and from these we find that they formed a large square, rising 20 feet high. The walls are formed of rough stones, cemented with *run* lime, forming a mass 5 feet thick. The garden and orchard are yet in preservation. We have no certain information when this fortalice ceased to be occupied. Alexander Sutherland, of

the ancient family of Duffus, was created a Peer, by the title of Lord Duffus, 8th Dec., 1650. He married four wives—one at a time; the first two and last were barren to him, although the fourth wife (Margaret, eldest daughter of William, 11th Lord Forbes) married for her 2nd husband Sir Robert Gordon, 3rd Bart. of Gordonstown, by whom she had one daughter, married to John Forbes of Culloden. Lord Duffus bought or acquired from his father-in-law (his 2nd wife's sire, James, Earl of Moray) the lands of Ardgay, Leggat, Kintrae, and others, and the Earl of Moray's house in Elgin, called "the Great Lodging," which he enlarged and beautified. At this time, the family estate consisted of the whole parish of Duffus, Quarrelwood, Ardgay, Kintrae, &c., in Morayshire, and Skelbo, Torboll, Morvich, &c., in Sutherlandshire. Alexander, Lord Duffus, died 31st Aug., 1674, and was succeeded by his only son, James, 2nd Lord Duffus, the offspring of his 3rd wife, Lady Margaret Stewart, 2nd daughter of James, 5th Earl of Moray. This James, Lord Duffus, killed Ross of Kindeace in a sudden quarrel under much provocation, and had for some time to leave the country in consequence. He died the 24th Sept., 1705, but previously he got embarrassed, and had to sell the greater part of the estate to his 2nd son, James Sutherland, as a temporary arrangement. He borrowed the money to pay the price from Archibald Dunbar of Thunderton, which he was unable to recoup. The title was attainted in 1715. Thus the great and powerful family of De Moravia, who at one time had large territories and great power in the land, have now no longer a house nor name in the county of Moray.

An old woman of the parish, who survived the year 1760, related that she was a servant in the Castle, and remembered to have waited on the company at table, when Lord Dundee, the celebrated Claverhouse, was a guest, about 1689; that she brought the claret to the table from the cask in a timber stoup (a jar, the workmanship of the cooper), which was drunk from a silver cup. She said the Viscount was a swarthy little man, with lively keen eyes, his hair black, verging towards grey, having a lock covering each ear, rolled up on a slip of lead twisted together at its ends.] (See Rhind's *Sketches of Moray*, Young's *Annals of Elgin*, and *Morayshire Described*.)



Near a hamlet called *the Keam* or *Kaim*, supposed to be a corruption of *Camus*, a Danish leader who was here killed, was a Pillar or Obelisk, alleged to commemorate a victory of Malcolm II. over the Danes under the above *Camus*.

*Ancient Porch at Duffus.*—This beautiful fragment is probably the oldest relic of ecclesiastical architecture in the Province. The arch approaches to the Saxon, an older style of the Gothic than the acute-pointed arch. It may either have formed one of the aisles of the Church of St. Peter, which we know existed here in the 11th and 12th centuries, or it may be part of the Chapel of St. Lawrence, founded by Freskinus De Moravia, one of the Lords of Duffus, and who was buried here as well as several of his ancestors. He died about 1269.

This arch forms the entrance to the present Church of Duffus, and is still in good preservation. An etching is given at page 31 of Rhind's *Sketches of Moray*.

A Cross, also apparently of considerable antiquity, stands in front of the Church.

The rocky promontory, on which the town or village of Burgh-head is built, projects into the Moray Firth, from the general line of the coast, in a north-westerly direction to the extent of about three quarters of a mile. This promontory rises from the neck uniting it to the mainland, at first with a gentle inclination, to within 400 feet or so of its termination. Of the remaining extent, which narrows towards the extremity, and ends in a perpendicular front towards the sea, the south-west half is a level space, of an average width of 250 feet, and 80 feet above the water, while the rest of the ground attains a somewhat higher elevation. Where the declivity commences three parallel ramparts, 15 and 20 feet high, with intervening ditches 16 feet wide (considerable portions of both of which still exist), were carried quite across the promontory. Ramparts on some sides still existing encompassed both the upper and lower terminal areas within these breast works. The houses of the modern town occupy the inclined surface in regular lines of low-sized buildings.

About 80 years ago there was discovered within the rampart of the upper area a cubical-shaped covered chamber, the sides of which measured 14 feet each, cut



in the solid rock, and having in the centre a cistern, bath, or reservoir, 4 feet deep and 10 feet 9 inches square, in which springs up a fountain of clear water. A projecting cornice, one foot broad, runs round the chamber, about 6 feet from the top of the walls; and at one of its angles is a pedestal apparently for a statue. The communication from without is through an excavated passage on one side, and a flight of stone steps ascending to the surface of the ground. The chamber is coated with plaster, which, though now faded, was, when first opened, of a deep red colour, and its angles are rounded.

No Roman coins have been dug up here; but on some, at least two, shapeless slabs of freestone, met with in the ramparts, the figure of a bull (about the size of an ordinary bull-dog) is outlined in *basso-relievo*. Anthony Carlisle, on the 11th May, 1809, exhibited to the Society of Antiquaries, London, a drawing of the animal, taken with moistened paper, given in vol. xvi., p. 365 of *Archæologia*. The views given out in General Roy's *Military Antiquities* and in Chalmers' *Caledonia* are not accepted. They asserted that the Danish fortress here (a round hill of about 50 feet high) was previously the "ultima Ptoroton" of the Romans, mentioned in the *Journal* of the Monk Richard of Cirencester, A.D. 1338. Recent enquiries and excavations made on the spot have failed to find any reliable evidence that the Romans ever had a fortified station or camp here; while the style of the sculptured bulls in this part of the country, though bold and graceful, is considered to be undoubtedly native and Celtic. In the deep cutting of the hoofs and the circular volutes of the tail and shoulder blades, the figures have an Eastern or Nineveh type; and in the loose rubbish of the ramparts portions of carved crosses with processions and animals have been found, more nearly resembling the celebrated sculptured stones of the shires of Aberdeen and Kincardine, which exhibit a mixture of native Pagan and Christian forms.

The names of places in the neighbourhood, as *Tuesis* or the Spey, and *Varris* or Forres, and the remains of a very old road leading south from Burgh-head through the hills of Cromdale and across the Grampians, of which a few pieces still remain, somewhat like a Roman paved way in their structure, alone give countenance to the

Roman theory of Ptolemy's Geography and the Monkish *Itinera*. It is, at all events, certain that the Norwegian Earls of Orkney, who were in constant warfare with the Scottish Earls of Sutherland and Caithness, and the pirates from Denmark and Norway who infested our seas for nearly 400 years, are known to have found here a commodious harbour for their fleets, and an impregnable fortress, and from their occupation of it the place acquired its Norse appellation of *Brough-Head*.

Attention is hereby called to "Historical Notices of the *Broch* or *Burghead*, in Moray, with an Account of its Antiquities, by James Macdonald, Esq., A.M.," printed in the Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, vol. iv., p. 321.] (ED.)

Before I describe the south side of the Loch of Spynie, I shall take a view of the ancient

#### MORAYS OF DUFFUS.

Duffus gave title to a noble lord, but is more remarkable for having been the seat of the principal family of the ancient Moravienses. (1) Friskinus, stiled De Moravia\* (for particular surnames were not at that time fixed) was Dominus de Duffus, in the reign of King David I. (*Chart. Morav.*). His son (2) Willielmus de Moravia Filius Friskini had a charter from King William, about anno 1169, of the lands of Duffus, Rossile, Kintrae, Inskele, &c., "Quas terras, Pater suus Friskinus tenuit tempore Regis David Avi mei" †

\* It is observed that Sir Robert Douglas often calls this person De Moravia; but it is much doubted if he had any authority for calling him so. It is supposed that he gave him this appellation because his son William is called De Moravia.

† *Translation*.—Which lands his father, Freskin, held in the reign of my grandfather, King David.



(*Ibid*). He had several sons; as Hugh, his heir, mentioned in a charter by Richard, Bishop of Moray, to the Abbey of Kinloss (*Ibid*). Hugh\* is supposed to have been ancestor of the Sutherlands, who dropt the name De Moravia, and assumed a sirname from their country, for both Sutherland and Caithness were anciently called *Catanesia*, afterwards divided into *Australis* and *Borealis*. Sir John, Sheriff of Perthshire, the undoubted progenitor of the family of Tullibardine, represented in the direct male-line by his Grace the Duke of Athole, who is the 20th generation in descent from this Sir John; Willielmus Filius Willielmi Friskini, Dominus de Pettie, Brachlie and Boharm, and father of Walter of Pettie, of whom came Sir Andrew Moray, Lord of Bothwell, Governor of Scotland, who died anno 1338; and Sir John de Moravia, whose representative in the right male-line is Mr. Moray of Abercairny; Andrew, Bishop of Moray; Gilbert, Bishop of Caithness; and Richard of Coulbin. (3) Hugh was father of (4) Walterus de Moravia, filius quondam Hugonis de Moravia, so called in an agreement, anno 1266, with Archibald, Bishop of Moray, about a part of the wood and moor of Spynie. His son (5) Friskinus filius Walteri (*Ibid*) had two daughters co-heiresses,

\* Hugh, the ancestor of the family of Sutherland, was called Hugh Friskin. (See *Additional Case for Lady Elizabeth Sutherland*, page 8.) It is doubted whether he was the son of William, or his brother, and father of the persons after mentioned.



viz., Hellen, married to Sir Reynold Cheyne, and Christine, married to William de Federeth. The family of Cheyne of Duffus ended likewise in two daughters, viz., Mary, married to Nicholas Sutherland, second son of Kenneth, Earl of Sutherland, who was killed at Halidon Hill, anno 1333; and the other daughter married to John Keith, younger son to Sir Edward Keith Marshall of Scotland, and with her got Inverugie lands in Buchan and a part of Duffus. This Duffus was divided into the King's part, Duffus's part, and Marshall's part. Alexander Sutherland, grandson of Nicholas, married Morella, the heiress of Chisholm of Quarrelwood, which greatly increased his fortune, and the family purchased Marshall's Third and had an opulent estate. Alexander, the fifth in descent from him, was raised to the dignity of the Peerage, by the title of Lord Duffus, by King Charles II., 8 December, 1650. James, the second Lord, who died anno 1705, sold the greatest part of the estate to Archibald Dunbar of Thunderton (a branch of the family of Kilbuiak and Hempriggs) whose grandnephew now enjoyeth it. Kenneth, third Lord Duffus, who was a Commander in the Royal Navy in Queen Anne's time, in which station he signalled himself in several engagements, had the misfortune to enter into the Rebellion anno 1715, and was attainted. His grandson, James Sutherland, Esq., had it not been for the forfeiture,

would have been the fifth Lord Duffus. He now represents that family.

The original arms of Moray are—Az. 3 stars. Arg. And of Sutherland, Gul. 3 stars. Or.

Arms of the family of Lord Duffus—Quarterly, 1st and 4th, Gules, three stars, Or. 2d, Azure, three cross crosslets fitché, Argent. 3d, Azure, a boar's head erased, Argent. Crest, a Cat Sejant proper. Motto, WITHOUT FEAR. Supporters, two Savages proper, each armed with a baton over his shoulder, and wreathed about the head and middle. Vert.

#### DE MORAVIAS OF DUFFUS AND PETTY.

[Willelmus Filius Freskin witnessed a Charter granted by Malcolm IV. to Berowaldus Flandrensis of the lands of Innes at Christmas, 1160. The date is proved by its being witnessed by William, Bishop of Moray, there styled Papal Legate, which rank he obtained in that year, and died in the year following. Between 1162 and 1171 he obtained a charter from that King of the lands "of Strabok, Duffus, Rosisle, Inchikel, Machir, and Kintrai, *quas terras pater suus Friskin tenuit tempore regis David avi mei*," (which lands his father, Frisken, held in the time of King David, my grandfather.) This Charter certainly existed in the middle of last century in the charter-chest of the Earl of Buchan, the proprietor of the lands of Strabok in Linlithgowshire. Though now missing, it is still in the inventory of his Lordship's title-deeds, and it was seen and copied by Nisbet, from whom the words above are quoted.

He witnessed several charters of King William between the years 1187 and 1199, and never any but those granted in Moray.

Willelmus Fresekyn was Sheriff of Invernaryn in 1204. He had three sons, Hugh, William, and Andrew.

Andrew was a churchman—Parson of Duffus in 1209. He is probably the parson who refused the Bishoprick of Ross in 1213. He is mentioned in 1221, but may by that time have been dead.

Hugh appears, along with his father, about the end of the 12th century. He inherited the lands of Duffus and Strabok. He had assumed the name of De Moravia, and was styled Lord of Duffus before 1203. He continues to



appear in the transactions of the Chartulary between 1203 and 1224. He was dead in 1226, and was buried in the Church of Duffus, near the Altar of St. Katharine, as we learn by a note on the margin of the older Chartulary, in a hand apparently of the 15th century:—

Iste Walterus de Moravia cum patre suo beato Hugone sepultus est in ecclesia de Duffous prope altare beate Katrine in eadem. Ut patet intuentibus. (That Walter of Moray, with the blessed Hugh his father, was buried in the Church of Duffus, near the Altar of St. Catherine in the same. As is evident to all going in.)

And at a charter granted by his son Walter, endowing a Chaplainry in the Church of Duffus, where he is styled *Walterus de Moravia filius Hugonis de Moravia*. A scribe of the 15th century has interpolated the word *beati* before *Hugonis*. From these notes it appears that he was canonized, or at least obtained the character of sanctity for his benefactions to the Church. He had two sons—Walter who succeeded him, and Andrew, who was Parson of Duffus during his father's lifetime and during the Episcopate of Bishop Bricius, whom he succeeded as Bishop of Moray in 1222. Walter de Moravia, Knight, Lord of Duffus, the eldest son of Hugh, occurs very frequently between 1224 and 1242. He married Eufemia, probably a daughter of Ferchar, Earl of Ross. The grounds for stating this are that the Earl granted to Walter de Moravia, apparently without any consideration, certain lands in Ross, which we find her afterwards possessing as dowry-lands. Eufemia was a favourite name in the family of the Earls of Ross. Walter de Moravia was dead in 1262-3, and was buried with his father in the Church of Duffus, as appears from a former quotation, and from the following note on the margin of the older chartulary against a charter of his:—

Iste verus habetur super tumulum eius in Duffus. Hic pater dormit tumulatus Hugoque beatus. (That true man has this upon his tomb in Duffus:—Here sleeps entombed the father and the blessed Hugh.)

Freskinus De Moravia, Lord of Duffus, was the son and heir of Walter. He occurs frequently in the Register between 1248 and 1263. In a composition between him and Simon, Bishop of Moray, we learn that he held the



lands of Logie by grants of the Bishop's predecessors to his great-grandfather and great-great-grandfather (*proavo et attavo*). He occurs in public life as a party to the treaty with the Welsh in 1258. His wife was Johanna, of what family is unknown, who was proprietrix, apparently in her own right, of extensive lands in Strathnavir. He was dead in 1269, and was buried in the Chapel of St. Lawrence, in the Church of Duffus, as we learn from the following notes, marked in a hand of the 15th century, upon the margin of the older Chartulary. There is some reason to think that these notes on the sepultures of the family of Duffus are in the handwriting of Bishop Alex. Stewart:—

Iste Friskinus sepultus est in capella Sancti Laurentii ecclesie parochialis de Duffows. Et iste erat nepos beati Hugonis domini de Duffows et fundatoris eiusdem et filius Walteri de Moravia.

Iste Freskynus sepultus est in Capella Sancti Laurentii de Duffows quam ipse fundavit et dotavit de terris suis de Dawey in Strasphey et Duffows ut patet. Orate pro anima eius.

(That Friskin was buried in the Chapel of St. Lawrence in the Parish Church of Duffus. And he was the grandson of the blessed Hugh, lord of Duffus and founder of the same, and son of Walter of Moray.

That Friskin was buried in the Chapel of St. Lawrence in Duffus, which he himself founded, and endowed with his land of Dalvey in Strathspey and Duffus, as is evident. Pray for his soul.)

He left his property divided between two daughters and co-heiresses, Mary and Christian.

Christian, who occurs from 1269 to 1294, seems to have had a portion of the lands of Duffus and Strabok, and four davachs of land in Strathnavir. She married William de Federeth, who was constable of Roxburgh in 1262. Their son—*William le fir William de Federed, del Counte de Elgyn en Morref*—did homage to Edward in 1296. The family of De Federeth seems to have ended in an heiress, probably his daughter, in the time of David II.

Mary, probably the elder daughter, occurs from 1269 to 1312. She inherited the Castle of Duffus with the greater part of that barony, the half of Strabrok, with lands in Strathnavir. She married Sir Reginald le Chen the younger, and their descendants, co-heiresses, carried their

large possessions into the families of Sutherland of Duffus—sprung of Nicholas, second son of Kenneth, Earl of Sutherland, and Keith of Inverugie, a branch of the family of Marischal, and which ultimately merged into that great house.] (Preface xxxiv-xxxvii *Regist. Episc. Morav.*)

## THE PARISH OF ST. ANDREWS.\*

Lieth north of the town of Elgin, on both sides of the river Lossie, about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles in length, and near a mile in breadth.

The Church standeth on the north bank of the river,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile east from Elgin, 2 miles E.S.E. from New Spynie.

This parish was formerly called the Barony of Kilmalemnock, and was the heritage of Sir Gilbert Hay of the family of Lochluy or Park. Afterwards it came to the family of Innes. And Alexander of Innes, having killed a gentleman on the street of Edinburgh in 1576, purchased a remission from the Regent Morton, at the expense of resigning this barony (which comprehended Pitgavenie, Bareflathills, Dunkentie, Kirkton, Fosterseat, and Scotstonhill) in his favour (*MS. Hist. of Innes*).

East of the river, at the lower end is Insh, pertaining to the family of Innes. Above which is Dunkentie, which once belonged to Alexander Gordon, son of Alexander of Strathdon, who, with his two sons, was killed in Glenavon, by a

\* The parishes of St. Andrews and Lhanbryd were united in 1780, and now bear the name of *The Parish of St. Andrews-Lhanbryd*. Vide Page 326. (ED.)



party of thieves about anno 16 , and the lands came to the family of Gordon. Dunkentie is now the heritage of John Innes of the family of Leuchars: and Fosterseat is the property of the Duke of Gordon. Farther south is Barmukatie, lately pertaining to a branch of the Dunbars, and now to George Duff, Esq., the third son of the late Earl Fife. Above which is Linkwood, which pertained to the Gibsons, from whom it came to Dunbar of Bishopmiln, whose nephew, John Dunbar of Burgie, sold it lately to James Anderson, Provost of Elgin, and his son Robert sold it in 1767 to the Earl of Findlater.

West of the river, at the lower end is Pitgavenie, a part of the Bishop's lands. It was purchased by Alexander Brodie of Lethin, who, in 1657, disposed it in favour of a younger son; and the male heirs failing, it was purchased in 1747, from the co-heiresses, by Alexander Bremner, merchant in Portsoy, from whom James Brander bought it.

Next above it, is Caldcots, Kirktoon, and a part of Newmiln, pertaining to Innes of Dunkintie; the other part of Newmiln belongeth to William King of Newmiln. Next westward is,

#### THE PARISH OF SPYNIE.

Is situated betwixt the river of Lossie, and that loch to which it giveth name. It was formerly 3 miles in length; but now by drains and



banks, it is much confined. At the east end, it is near an English mile broad, but narrower and of unequal breadth westward. It abounds with pikes or gidds, and is in winter haunted with swans, that yield fine diversion in killing them. The loch (except a few pits) in summer is not above 5 feet deep, and might be easily drained, could the gentlemen proprietors agree about the rich soil that would be recovered. The hard shingly beach at the east end, makes it probable that once the sea flowed into the loch.

This parish stretcheth about 3 miles from east to west, and 1 mile in breadth.

The Church stood in the extremity to the east, and in 1736 was transplanted to, and built at, Quarrelwood, and called New Spynie. It is  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles north west from Elgin, about 3 miles east from Alves, and 2 miles west-north-west of St. Andrews.

This parish was most part Bishop's land, and in the east corner, on the bank of the Loch of Spynie, stood the Bishop's palace.

In 1590 Sir Alexander Lindsay, son of the Earl of Crawford, was created Lord Spynie,\* whose grandson dying 1670 without issue, the lands

\* R. Young, in his *History of the Parish of Spynie*, pp. 43, 44, observes: "Mr. Shaw, in his *History of Moray*, states that Lord Spynie held the temporal lands of the Diocese until 1670—and we are unwilling to differ from one so accurate in general—but it is proved by so many authorities that he sold them to the Crown in 1606, that the fact is beyond question." (Ed.)

reverted to the Crown, and were granted to Douglas of Spynie, from whom the barony was purchased by James Brodie late of Whitehill, and is now the property of James Brodie his grandson. But the castle and precinct (paying about £12 sterling annually) belong to the Crown.

Next afterward is Myreside, which lately pertained to Laurence Sutherland of Greenhall, and was purchased from him by the Earl of Findlater. Farther west is Finrossie, the property of a branch of the family of Lesly of Rothes; the first of which was Robert, fourth son to George 5th Earl of Rothes, by Margaret daughter of the Lord Crichton Chancellor of Scotland. Robert was succeeded in his lands of Finrossie, by his eldest son Robert; who, by Margaret daughter of Alexander Dunbar of Grange a Lord of Session, had Robert his successor, who married Isabel, daughter of Forbes of Blackston, by whom he had George, fourth of this family, laird of Finrossie, who married Mary, daughter of Bannerman of Elsieck, but died without issue. I shall not dip into the question, Who was the true heir of Earl George, after the disinheriting the eldest son Norman; whether Andrew who succeeded, or the first mentioned Robert of Finrossie, for whom much may be said.

Westward is Quarrelwood, so called from a rich quarry of free-stone in the adjacent hill, which was once covered with a large oak wood,



whereof there are yet some remains. In the year 1334, Sir Robert Lauder of Quarrelwood was governor of the castle of Urquhart (Abercrombie). His grandson, by his daughter and heir, Sir Robert Chisholm succeeded him, whose sister Janet, was married to Hugh Rose of Kilravok in 1334 (but it is incredible, that Sir Robert Lauder should be governor of the castle of Urquhart in the year 1334, when his great-grand-daughter was married to Kilravock. Abercrombie in his History, vol. ii., page 38, in the life of King David II. calls him Robert Lauder, captain of Urquhart), (*MSS. Hist. Kilr.*). And John, brother to Sir Robert, succeeding in the estate, his grand-daughter (heiress to his son Robert), married Alexander Sutherland of Duffus, and brought Quarrelwood, Kinsterie, Brightmonie, &c., into that family. Now Quarrelwood and its pertinents, are the property of the Earl Fife.

Below Quarrelwood is Kintrae (*Cean-traidh*, i.e. the Head of the Strand or Shore, for it was the end of the loch) a part of the estate of Duffus, now pertaining to the Duke of Gordon. On Lossie side is Bishopmiln Barony, purchased by James Robertson, late Provost of Elgin, from John Dunbar of Burgie, about 1752, and the late Earl of Findlater purchased it from Mr. Robertson. Next up the river, is Moraystoun, purchased by Lord Braco in 1756, from the heirs and creditors of Martin of Moraystoun. And further up the



river is Aldruchtie, probably a part of the estate of Quarrelwood, and for generations pertaining to Nairn of Aldruchtie, but now to the Earl Fife.\*

*Note.*—Interesting details of these properties and of the drainage of the Loch of Spynie, are given in Young's *Parish of Spynie*. (Ed.)

Below Quarrelwood on the plain next to Duffus is Westfield, the seat of Sir William Dunbar of Westfield, from whose son-in-law, Captain Thomas Dunbar, Sir Ludovick Grant of Grant purchased the barony of Westfield and his lands about Forres, anno 1767. The mention of the family of Westfield, leads me to speak of

#### THE DUNBARS.

The name of Dunbar is plainly patronymic, taken from Bar their progenitor, and Dunbar is Bar's hill. The Highlanders do not use the word Dunbar, but *Barridh*, i.e. the descendants of Bar. Our history favours this, and mentions Bar a general in King Kenneth MacCalpin's army about anno 842, who, from his name, called his residence Dunbar. In the battles of Cullen anno 961, and Mortlich anno 1010, Dunbar Thane of Lothian was a commander. Earl Patrick de Dunbar lived about anno 1061 (Buchann. & Hume). And anno 1072 King Malcolm III. gave to Gospatrick Earl of Northumberland, "Dunbar

\* "After the most anxious search, I can find not the least trace of such a family; and, if there was, they must have been only tenants." (*R. Young.*)

cum adjacentibus terris in Lodonio"\* (Sim. Dunelm).

Of him came the noble family of the Earls of Dunbar and March, in a direct line, to the year 1434, when Earl George was, in an arbitrary manner forfeited, and the direct line became extinct, through the ambition of the rival house of Douglas. Of this great family came the Homes, Dundasses, &c., but the name was continued in the family of Moray.

John Dunbar (2nd son of George 11th Earl of March, who died anno 1416, whose mother was Agnes Randolph, daughter of Thomas Earl of Moray) married King Robert II.'s daughter, who, March 2nd (anno regni 2do) 1372, gave the Earldom of Moray (except Badenoch, Lochaber, and the castle of Urquhart) dilecto filio nostro Joanni de Dunbar and Mariotæ Sponsæ ejus filiæ nostræ charissimæ"† (Publ. Archiv.). Their sons were, Earl Thomas and Alexander of Frenderet. Earl Thomas, leaving no male issue, was succeeded by his nephew Earl James son of Frenderet, who married, 1st, Isabel, daughter of Sir Walter Innes of Innes, who brought him a son Alexander; and, 2ndly, Janet Gordon, daughter of Huntley, by whom he had Janet, married to James second

\* *Translation*.—Dunbar with the neighbouring lands in Lothian. (ED.)

† *Translation*.—To our beloved son John Dunbar and Mariot his spouse our dearest daughter. (ED.)



Lord Crichton, Lord Chamberlain of Scotland; and Elizabeth, married to Archibald brother to the Earl of Douglas. Earl James died about anno 1446, and his son ought to have succeeded him; but because his mother Isabel Innes (who stood in the 4th degree to her husband) died before a dispensation was obtained, the power of the Douglasses got Alexander declared illegitimate, made his eldest sister renounce her right, and Archibald Douglas, husband of the younger sister, was made Earl of Moray anno 1446. Thus was Alexander, son of Earl James, unjustly deprived. But, to make some compensation to him he was knighted, made heritable sheriff of Moray, and got an opulent estate. And Archibald Douglas, having joined in his brother's rebellion, was slain in the field of battle, and the Earldom of Moray was forfeited, and annexed to the Crown anno 1455, where it remained, till King James IV. bestowed it on his bastard son James, by Jean daughter of John Lord Kennedy in the year 1501; Who, dying in the year 1544, without male issue, it again reverted to the Crown, where it remained till the 10th of February, 1562, when Queen Mary conferred it on her base brother James, afterwards Regent; whose eldest daughter, Lady Elizabeth, conveyed it to her husband James Lord Down, whose issue at present enjoy it, as will be more fully shown afterwards.



## THE DUNBARS OF WESTFIELD.

(1) Sir Alexander Dunbar of Westfield, only son of James, 5th Earl of Moray, had great possessions in lands. Beside the barony of Westfield, he had the lands of Carnousie, Pitterhouse, Kilbuyack, Conzie, Durris, Tarras, Balnagath, Fochabers, Clunies, Moyness, Clavack, Golfurd, Barlow, &c. By Isabel, daughter of Alexander, 3rd Baron of Duffus, he had six sons and one daughter, viz.: Sir James, his heir; Sir John, who married [Margaret] one of the co-heiresses of Cumnock, whose male line is extinct; Alexander of Conzie and Kilbuyack, third son, from whom Sir Jas. Dunbar of Mochrum, the direct heir-male of the Earls of Moray, and the heritable Sheriffs of Moray, is descended; Gavin Dunbar, Dean of Moray, Archdean [Archdeacon] of St. Andrews, Bishop of Aberdeen, and Lord Clerk Register of Scotland, fourth son. He was consecrated Bishop of Aberdeen anno 1518, and died anno 1532, having built the Bridge of Dee, and founded an hospital for the maintenance of twelve poor men; David Dunbar of Durris, 5th son, from whom the Dunbars of Grangehill are descended in a direct male line. He sold the lands of Durris anno 1608, and purchased Grangehill; Patrick, sixth son, Chancellor of the Diocese of Aberdeen, ancestor of the Dunbars of Bermagefield, now represented

in the male line by Archibald Dunbar of Dykeside, Esq. Sir Alexander's only daughter was Isabell, married to Sir Willam Keith of Innerugie, to whom she had two daughters; the eldest married to William, Earl Marshall, the other to William, Lord Forbes. And from these two marriages all of these noble families since that time are descended.

(2) Sir James Dunbar succeeded his father, Sir Alexander, in his estates of Westfield, &c., and heritable Sheriffship of Moray. He married Eupheme, eldest daughter and co-heiress of Patrick Dunbar of Cumnock and Mochrum, by whom he had (3) Sir James Dunbar of Cumnock and Westfield, who was served heir to his father anno 1505. He got a charter erecting his town of Aulderm into a free burgh of barony, with all the privileges enjoyed by any other burgh within the kingdom, dated the 20th of August, anno 1511. By Elizabeth, daughter of Sir James Ogilvie, of Deskford, ancestor of the Earl of Findlater, he had his son and heir (4) Sir Alexr. Dunbar of Cumnock and Westfield, who succeeded his father anno 1535; for his great personal courage he was called "the Bold Sheriff." He was succeeded by his son (5) Sir Patrick, anno 1576. He married Jean, sister of John, the 14th Earl of Sutherland, by a dispensation from the Pope on account of consanguinity. With this lady he had two sons. Sir James, the



eldest son, had a son, Sir Alexander, who died without issue anno 1603 ; (6) Patrick of Boghole [Boghall], second son of Sir Patrick, was killed with the Earl of Moray at Dunibristle, anno 1592. He left four sons: Alexander, the eldest, who died without issue ; John, second son, whose son, Alexander, died anno 1646, without issue ; James, third son, died unmarried ; (7) Thomas, fourth son, who succeeded his nephew, Alexander. He was succeeded by his son (8) Robert Dunbar of Westfield, Sheriff of Moray, who, by Barbara, daughter of Sir Robert Innes of Innes, had two sons, Robert, his heir, whose grandson, Robert Dunbar of Westfield, Sheriff of Moray, dying anno 1711 without issue, was succeeded by his cousin, Ludovick, son and heir of (9) Alexander Dunbar of Moy, second son of Robert Dunbar of Westfield (No. 8 of this account) ; which Alexander married Lucia, daughter of Sir Ludovick Gordon of Gordonstoun, by whom he had the above-mentioned (10) Ludovick, who succeeded to the estate of Westfield and heritable Sheriffship of Moray, which last, that had been nearly 300 years in the possession of his family, he sold to Charles, Earl of Moray, and disposed his estate to his cousin, Elizabeth, heir of line of the family, grand-daughter of Robert Dunbar of Westfield, his father's brother ; which (11) Elizabeth succeeded him anno 1744, and married Sir William Dunbar of Hempriggs (son



of Sir James Sutherland, second son of James, Lord Duffus), with whom she had a daughter (12), Janet, undoubted heir of line of the ancient Dunbars of Westfield, heritable Sheriffs of Moray. She married Captain Thomas Dunbar of Grangehill, now of Westfield, with whom she had issue two sons (13) Alexander, the eldest, William Henry, second son, and a daughter, Elizabeth.

It is observable that when Ludovick of Westfield died anno 1744, I could not find a male that could instruct his propinquity to him without going back 250 years, and tracing down the descendants of Sir John Dunbar, the first of Mochrum.

Arms of Dunbar of Westfield. Quarterly, 1 and 4, Gules, a Lion rampant within a border Argent, for Dunbar ; 2 and 3 Or, three Cushions pendent by the corners, within the Royal tressures, Gules. Crest, a Sword and Key disposed in Saltire proper. Motto, SUB SPE (Under Hope.)

#### THE DUNBARS OF THUNDERTON.

Dunbar of Thunderton, in the parish of Duffus, is the representative of Dunbar of Kilbuiak, as mentioned in the general history of the name of Dunbar. Kilbuiak was the third son of Dunbar of Westfield, who was only son of James, 5th Earl of Moray. In 1763 Sir Patrick Dunbar of Hempriggs and Northfield having died without male issue, the title of Baronet devolved upon Dunbar of Thunderton as nearest heir-male. Alexander Dunbar of Thunderton was regularly

served heir-male to said Sir Patrick, and the service is recorded in the Sheriff Court-book of Elgin. This Alexander Dunbar (afterwards Sir Alexander) married Margaret, daughter of John, Viscount of Arbuthnot, by whom he had issue: 1st, Jean, married to James Coull, Esq. of Ashgrove; 2nd, Archibald, who succeeded to him; 3rd, Helen, who died young; 4th, John, who died, an officer in the army. Sir Archibald, who succeeded, married, first, Helen Penrose Cumming, daughter of Sir Alexander Penrose Cumming of Altyre, by whom he had issue: 1st, Helen, married to Robert Warden of Parkhill, Stirlingshire; 2nd, Margaret, married to L. Macintosh of Raigmore; 3rd, Alexander, who died young; 4th, Jane, married to Rawdon Forbes Clavering, Esq., Royal Engineers; 5th, Georgina; 6th, Archibald, an officer in the army; 7th, John, in the Civil Service of the East India Company, married to Miss Sophia Hagar; 8th, William, who died in India; 9th, Charles, an officer in the East India Company's Service; 10th, Louisa; 11th, Thomas; 12th, Emilia; 13th, Edward. Sir Archibald married, secondly, Mary, daughter of John Brander, Esq. of Pitgavenie, by whom he had issue, James Brander Dunbar.

Arms Quarterly; Dunbar and Randolph, all within a border, vary, Gules and Or, with a Lion rampant, *par surtout*, for the Baronetage. Crest, a drawn sword or Key Cross. Supporters, on the dexter, a Lion rampant, argent; and, on the sinister, a



savage holding a batton over his shoulder, proper. SUB SPE  
(Under Hope.)

## SPYNIE.

[*Soil, Situation, Climate.*—Although the lake of Spynie has retired a considerable space from the west end of the parish, and although the river Lossie does not cover the whole of its southern side, yet the parish may be in general considered as lying between the river and the lake. From near the precinct of the castle of Spynie at the east, a ridge of moor stretches the whole length, about 4 miles, rising gradually towards the west into a high hill. Upon each side of this hill lies the whole of the cultivated land, extending the general breadth of the parish, nearly equal to its length, and including almost every variety of soil, from the heaviest clay to the lightest land. On the southern side of the hill, along the banks of the Lossie, the air is peculiarly mild and warm, during a great proportion of the year. On the northern side the climate is not so pleasant: the soil is wet and cold: the lake and the adjoining low ground, imperfectly drained, often emit a disagreeable fog, yet without any bad effect on the health of the inhabitants, there being no disease more prevalent here than in any other part of the country. It has been already observed, that the parishes of Drainy and of Duffus lie upon the north side, and between Spynie and the sea; the parish of Elgin lies along the whole length of its southern confines; and a fine field, a plain of 40 acres, reaches close up to the north side of the town; the river having once run up hard by, as appears by title deeds of the adjoining tenements, which still bound them by the river, although this broad plain, the property of the Earl of Findlater, has been from time immemorial interjected. The reverse of this has happened a little lower down, in a small semi-circular field called Dean's Crook, which has been cut off from the cathedral-lands of Elgin, by the river occupying the diameter instead of the periphery, which till of late remained a reedy pond.

*State of Property.*—The valued rent of the parish, amounting to £3055 13s. 8d. Scots, is divided among four proprietors, of whom the Earl of Fife, holding the lands of Spynie, Morristown, Sheriffmill, Auldroughty, Leigate, Rosehaugh, Quarrywood, and Kintrae, has the valuation



of £1691 3s. 8d. The Earl of Findlater, holding Bishopmill, Myreside, and Burrowbriggs, has £547 8s. 8d. Francis Russel of Blackhall, Esq., advocate, has Westfield, being valued at £488 16s. 2d.; and John Leslie, Esq., Writer to the Signet, has Findrossie, valued at £327 5s. 2d. The public burdens of the parish are supported by these proprietors; but, besides them, the precincts of the castle of Spynie, being 10 acres, and yielding a revenue of £12 sterling, is the property of the Crown. James Milne, Esq., has the Mills of Bishopmill, and a small contiguous property, which, with another small feu, the property of John Ritchie, Esq., merchant in Elgin, is included in the valuation appertaining to the Earl of Findlater. These mills, on the river Lossie, comprehend machinery for making all the varieties of pot barley, and for grinding wheat and other grain, of the most improved and newest construction; and a little farther down the river, on Mr. Ritchie's feu, there is a field and the most complete machinery, whereby the bleaching of linen and of thread is carried on to a great extent, in the most advantageous manner.

The lands, for the most part, are occupied in small farms, there being only three that equal or exceed 100 acres. The clay soil produces more weighty crops than the sandy, and affords about a fifth part more rent, although, on account of the additional expense which attends its management, it is reckoned by many not the most profitable, the labour being often suspended by the wet during a great part of the winter and the beginning of spring, while all the necessary operations of husbandry are prosecuted on the drier lands. Consequently a greater proportion of servants and cattle is required, and the crop, being in general more late, is exposed to greater damage in harvest. A considerable proportion, however, of this kind of soil is rented at a guinea the acre, while the sandy soil only brings from 10s. to 17s. The estate of Westfield was lately modelled into allotments from 20 to 40 acres, and let at the rate of nearly £2 per acre; yet the mean rent over the whole parish cannot be estimated higher than £1 3s. the acre.

It will not be deemed improper to take notice of the cultivation of the farm of Sheriffmill, rented by James Walker, Esq., M.D. This gentleman in the early part of

his life entered with all the ardour of enthusiasm into the horse-hoeing husbandry, in which he has ever since persevered with unfailing steadiness, raising crops of wheat, barley, and beans, in drills, without a particle of dung, always following the intervals, about 3 feet, for each succeeding crop; hereby completely demonstrating the effect of cultivation without the use of manure. Although every operation has been performed with the nicest accuracy, and in its proper season, and though the light sandy soil of Sheriffmill seems well adapted for this kind of husbandry, yet the result has not been such as to encourage imitation. The quality of the wheat, though raised successively on the same field for the space of almost 20 years, without dung, has not been impaired; but the quantity by the acre is less in a very great degree than is raised in the broadcast way in the same kind of soil, well ploughed and manured.

*State Ecclesiastical.*—The Manse and Church were pleasantly situated at the eastern extremity of the parish, in the vicinity of the castle, until the year 1736, when they were removed to Quarrywood—a central, but a bleak situation, nearly under the highest part of the north side of the hill. The glebe and garden, consisting of about 6 acres, are enclosed with stone walls. The burying-ground has been continued in the original situation, in the east end of the parish. The stipend and allowance for the expense of the communion, are 4 chalders of barley, and 1 chaldar of meal, and £46 6s. 8d. sterling.

The right of patronage at present is perhaps not fully ascertained. A brief detail of the circumstances which are publicly known relating to it, is all that can be here stated. Before the abolition of Episcopacy, in the year 1640, the patronage appears by the ecclesiastical records to have been undisputed in the family of Innes; and they exercised it undisturbed unto the present times, save for the short interval of its general abolition, during which they preserved their possession by the disposal of the vacant stipends, and by preventing the benefice being impaired, by objecting to the annexation of the land of Burrowbriggs to the parish of Elgin. At the settlement, however, of the last incumbent, the Duke of Gordon claimed the patronage, and conjoined in the presentation with Sir James Innes, who before the late settlement had



disposed of his rights to the Earl of Fife, on which occasion the patronage was also claimed by Col. Fullarton of Boisack, as the heir of Alexander Lindsay, Lord Spynie, in whose behalf the church-lands of the bishoprick which remained at the Reformation, with the feu-duties and patronages, were by James VI. erected into a temporal lordship. The Colonel conjoined with the Earl in the presentation; but their presentee being in the meantime elsewhere appointed, the Peers made an agreement for that vice, in which the Colonel did not farther interfere; but since the settlement, the right of patronage has been decided by the Court of Session in his favour. During the course of the litigation, however, the Duke recovered an ancient and more special evidence of the validity of his claim, on which he has brought it again under the review of the Court.

The School is a mean cottage, and the accommodation for the master miserably wretched. It was built about half a mile northward from the Church, on a sterile moor, a corner of which, during the hours of vacation, had been, by the industry of successive masters, cultivated, exciting them to a degree of exercise advantageous to their health, while it improved their slender subsistence by its produce of potatoes and other vegetables. As by these means so much has been added to the revenue and territory of the landlord, who has some time exacted an adequate rent and as there is a considerable extent of adjoining rocky, moor, yielding no pasturage of any value, and only improvable by the manual labour of the spade, it would perhaps be but equity to the schoolmaster, to allocate an acre in any convenient corner, which he might in the meantime improve, and to which the school might be removed, when it needs to be rebuilt. His present appointment is £4 sterling, paid by the landlords, and 8 bolls of meal, collected from the tenants, in proportion to their respective rents, with the usual fees of teaching, and the pittance annexed to the office of session-clerk.

Besides the halfpence contributed by the people in the Church, the provision for the poor arises from the interest of a donation by Mary Bannerman, a widow lady of the family of Findrossie, in the year 1707, accumulated at present to £111 2s. 6d. sterling, double the original endowment. It is placed with the Magistracy of Elgin, and



under the care of the proprietors of Bishopmill, Westfield, and Findrossie. The Rev. William Dougal, minister of the parish, left a similar endowment, almost £17 of principal, half of its interest to be applied in buying Bibles for poor children; and his maiden daughter, Katharine, by her will in the year 1793, bequeathed £20 sterling, for the education of two girls successively, for two years in reading, writing, and arithmetic, when 6 or 7 years old, and for the next two years in knitting hose, and sewing linens. This endowment is in the patronage of the Session, but limited to the legitimate children of Presbyterians. [George M'Cummins or M'Kimmie, of Blackheath, Kent, bequeathed, in 1796, £200 for the poor of the parish.] The members of the Established Church amount to 779: there are 20 of the Episcopalian profession, and 1 Seceder.

*Miscellaneous Information.*—The people are industrious and frugal, maintaining also other virtues, not so much the necessary consequence of their situation, being in general, honest, benevolent, and friendly, entertaining also a high respect for the ordinances of religion. The names of many of the places are of the Gaelic language: Kintrea, *the head of the tribe*, when the lake was an arm of the sea; Inshagarty, *the Priest's island*; Leigate, the original *Lag-na-fhad*, the long hollow. On the south side of the hill, towards its western end, there is a large extent of natural oak wood, the property of the Earl of Fife. It is well preserved, properly thinned, and, when full grown, will be again of great value. Under a thin stratum of moorish soil, the greater part of the hill is a mass of hard excellent free-stone, of which a quarry near the summit is wrought to a considerable extent, supplying all the country with mill-stones, and Elgin and its neighbourhood with stones for building.

On this hill, the traces of the Danish camp that has been mentioned are still conspicuous, but must in a short time be effaced, by having been, indiscriminately with the circumjacent moor, planted over with Scots fir. Were the noble owner apprized of this, he might perhaps, from his distinguished taste, be induced to give instructions for the preservation of such a monument of ancient national history, still attesting the truth of venerable records, that our ancestors were for more than a year subjected to the most cruel and oppressive servitude, being without dis-

tion of rank or sex compelled to undergo the most intolerable labour, to every species of the most grievous exaction, and to the most wanton murder, by an encampment of hostile barbarians in the heart of the country. By such a monument, the passing generation may be inspired with thankfulness to a good Providence, and also taught the value of the present government, whose energy prevents the most transient apprehensions of such insulting cruelties from their enemies, equally rapacious and more blood-thirsty than the northern savages of the 11th century.

In preceding times also, the accommodation of civil life, and the state of the useful arts, were vastly inferior to those of modern times. The erecting the machinery of a corn-mill could not then be undertaken by any person in a rank inferior to a Baron, a Bishop, or an hereditary Sheriff. The particular year 1237, in which the mill of Sheriffmill was built, is specially ascertained by the remarkable circumstance of the ground for its situation being the first dilapidation of the revenues of the bishoprick, in the 7th incumbency, by that respectable Bishop who laid the foundation of the great Cathedral, Andrew de Moravia, of the family of Duffus, in favour of his brother. The conveyance is to this effect:—

“Know all, that we, by the consent and free-will of our chapter, have given and granted, and by this our charter have confirmed, to Walter de Moravia, and his heirs, one station for a mill in Lossie, on our land of Auchter Spynie, on the eastern part of Royer in the same land, to grind their corn and that of their people, as freely, quietly, and fully, as any Baron in Moray, upon delivering to us and our successors, as an acknowledgment, each year at the feast of Whitsunday, one pound weight of pepper, and another of cumin.”—*Chart. of Mor.* fol. 32.

And this mill, though at the distance of 6 miles, has ever since continued to be the mill of the barony, at present the property of Sir Archd. Dunbar of Duffus. In those times, however, it appears that even uncultivated ground was of the same importance as at present. About 10 years before this dilapidation, a formal contract had been ratified by the same brothers, in a style similar, but more brief, than the deeds of the present day. The narrative represents:—



"Whereas there is a dispute between Andrew, Bishop of Moray, on the one part, and Walter de Moravia, son of the late Hugh de Moravia, respecting a servitude on the moors and woods of Spynie and Finrossie, which the said Walter alleges was of old obtained by his predecessors, and asserts to have been granted and confirmed to his father, by a charter from Bricius, of worthy memory, late Lord Bishop of Moray, upon delivering each year, as an acknowledgment, an half stone of wax, it is thus amicably settled between them, the chapter of the Cathedral of Moray willing and consenting: namely, that the said Walter and his heirs shall have in perpetuity to themselves and their families, a servitude upon the said woods and moors on the west side of the highway which comes from the castle of Duffus to Levenford in this manner, that the moor may be used by digging; but on the east side of the said road they make it common, the said Walter and his heirs paying yearly at Whitsunday to the Bishops of Moray, one merk sterling of lawful money, for all service and exaction pertaining to the said Bishops."

And in 1248, twenty-two years after the date of this contract, another agreement is made between their successors, Simon the Bishop, and Freskyn, the son of Walter. To the preceding concession the Bishop adds the land of Logynhavedall, and instead of the merk obtains again the possession, in common, of the pasturage and woods as far as Saltcot, which is between Finrossie and Kintray. It is also instructed by the Chart, that the lands of Quarrywood, not then under cultivation, made part of the pasturage at that time of such importance; for it appears by a reclaiming petition, directed by Dr. Alex. Bar, Bishop in 1369, to the honourable and potent Lord Archibald Douglas, knight, that they were then but recently cultivated. This Bishop, who, as has been shown, possessed in some degree the spirit of litigation, thus addresses him:—

"Honourable and noble Sir, you and John de Hay, Sheriff of Inverness, have determined a certain process in such manner, as God knows, to the grievous injury of the Priory of Pluscarden, and to the great prejudice of the jurisdiction of the Church, which we crave to have by you recalled; for we assert and declare that Alexander, King of Scotland, of pious memory, gifted to the prior and monks of Pluscarden, his mills of Elgin and Forres, and other mills depending on them, and the multures of the lands of those mills, which he then received, or



ought to have received, as they were for the deliverance of his soul, which mulctures of the lands then arable, by virtue of the donation, the said prior and monks have received, like as they yet without dispute receive : and whereas the mulctures of the lands of Quarrywood, in the sheriffdom of Elgin, at that time unimproved, but now reduced to cultivation, belongs and appertains to the mill of Elgin, from which it is scarcely a mile distant, because if it had been at that time cultivated, the mulctures thereof would and ought to have been received by the Royal granter."

The petition, after instructing more valid rights, and undisturbed possession, with the knowledge and tolerance of Robert Chisholme, knight, during the preceding reigns,

"Farther asserts and declares, that the said Robert seized and bound a certain husbandman of the lands of Finrossie, to whom the Prior had by contract let the said mulctures, and thrown him into a private prison, by which he directly incurred the sentence of excommunication."

The petition proceeds to shew cause why the action could not be determined by the civil, but by the ecclesiastical court, and concludes by threatening to excommunicate the civil judges, if they attempted anything farther, by which the Priory might be wronged, or the jurisdiction of the Church injured.

The whole roll of the Bishops of Moray, from the first erection of the diocese by Alexander I. about the year 1120, to the final abolition of Prelacy in the year 1688, a space of 568 years, amounted to the number of 37, about 16 years to each incumbency. Although none of them made any conspicuous figure as Statesmen, yet both in the Roman Catholic and Protestant Churches, several appear to have been respectable, and to have possessed the confidence of their respective contemporaries. Several estates are still bounded according to decreets-arbitral of Colin Falconer, the last Bishop who inhabited the castle of Spynie, and who died in 1686. The whole country, of every rank, attended his funeral. He had two successors, Alexander Rose and William Hay; but neither of them had any personal residence, in their official character, in this magnificent castle.] (*Survey of Province of Moray.*)

[At what period the first Parish Church of Spynie was erected we have no trace. It was very likely before the

time of Bishop Bricius, and it perhaps was a log-building, or clay wattled, common then. When the Bishop had no fixed seat, but moved about from Birnie to Spynie, and from thence to Kinnedar, as their necessity required, and had an occasional residence at Spynie, it is likely that a stone Church, similar to Birnie, may have been erected, and which was dedicated to the Holy Trinity. When Bishop Bricius fixed the Cathedral at Spynie, and obtained the consent of the Pope to that effect, a Church of some pretentious size in all probability must have been built. However, there is no existing writ giving details of the style or size of the structure. When the Cathedral was finally removed to Elgin in 1224, Spynie would fall to the level of a Parish Church. Whether it shared the general fate at the *Reformation*, and was replaced by the usual "cheap and nasty" substitute, there is no record. All that remained of the Parish Church was a Gothic gable, which fell about 30 years ago. This edifice was 74 feet long, and 35 feet broad, or 2590 square feet, including walls. The belfry was erected in 1723, which, with the cut stones of the doors, were utilised in the new church of parsimonious economy erected in 1736. It has a sun-dial placed on the south side, made by a son of the Rev. William Dougall, which has a margin of 4 inches all round. On the upper part, on the curve, is engraved "JOHANNES DOUGALL FECIT, 1740." The bell was brought from the old Church, and from the maker's name seems to have been cast in Holland, the great commercial centre of that time. There is a tradition that the bell was the gift of Bp. John Guthrie (1623-1638), who was deposed by the General Assembly in the latter year, but that it was not rung or hung until he left Spynie never to return. It bears the following inscription:—

THIS BELL—FOR THE PEARIS OF SPYNIE—ME FECIT, 1637.  
SOLI DEO GLORIA. MICHAEL BORGELTWYS.

On the lintel of the entry door of the old Manse were cut the initials "W.D., 1736, K.K.," indicating the minister and his wife. A new Manse was built in 1840.] (ED.)

#### SPYNIE.

[The name of Spynie occurs in the Chartulary of Moray no less than 67 times, which shows of how much consideration it was as the seat of the Bishop. It was probably



a place of some importance, and had a Parish Church at a very early date. When Bishop Bricius, in the beginning of the 13th century, fixed on this spot as the Cathedral Church of his diocese, he had strong reasons for doing so. It was most conveniently situated near the town of Elgin; had a communication with the sea, a harbour immediately adjoining, where all commodities could be landed; was a delightful, dry situation, with pure air, and a very commanding view of the surrounding country. There was little arable ground around it at this early period. Looking to the north and west, there was the arm of the sea, with its winding shores; towards the south and east, a considerable quantity of woodland and bare moor; but, under the fostering care of the Bishops, population would rapidly increase. Their tenants and vassals enjoyed an easy life, compared with those of the military barons around them. They had leisure to attend to their agricultural pursuits, and were not liable to be called into service for war; and, when attacked from without, they had the powerful arm of the Church to rely on. Such advantages, in a very disturbed age, had the tendency of bringing a great increase to the inhabitants of the district, improving the surrounding land, and reclaiming much that was waste. A village also sprang up on the borders of the lake, to the west of the Palace, which was eventually erected into a Burgh of Barony, with merchants and traders, gradually growing in population and importance, until, by an unexpected casualty, the lake ceased to be connected with the sea. This locality therefore became, from the above causes, and long continued to be, the most important part of the parish of Spynie, and up to the period of the Reformation, the most highly cultivated part of it.

In 1599 Alexander, Lord Spynie, 4th son of David, 9th Earl of Crawford, appointed Alexander Innes of Cotts Constable of the Fortalice and Castle of Spynie, and others within the precinct, with very extensive powers; and that functionary appears to have looked after the temporalities for behoof of his noble employer. The property continued in possession of the Lindsay family only for 16 years. In 1606, after King James VI. succeeded to the throne of England, it was his determined resolution to restore the order of Bishops, not from any religious feel-



ing, but merely from temporal motives. Lord Spynie sold to the Crown the lands belonging to the Bishopric of Moray, granted to him in 1590, reserving only the patronage of the Churches, which he eventually lost by not exercising his rights. Lord Spynie and King James VI. did not always continue on terms of friendship. On the contrary, they became quite alienated from one another. His Lordship was killed in a street brawl in Edinburgh, by his cousin, David Lindsay of Edzell in 1607.

When Episcopacy was restored in 1606, Alexander Douglas, minister at Elgin, was made Bishop, and held the See for 17 years. He seems to have resided at Elgin, and but little at Spynie, which continued under the management of Innes of Cotts, the Constable of the Palace and Regality. He conveyed the lands of Spynie, as well as Morriston and Burgh Briggs, to his son, Alexander Douglas, retaining for himself and his successors only the precinct round the palace. Alexander Douglas, the Bishop's son, is said to have married Mary Innes, and died, when Provost of Banff, in 1669.

The Douglasses, who were probably a branch of the Pittendrich family, continued in possession of the estate of Spynie until about the close of the century, when they sold it to James Brodie of Whitehill, a cadet of the family of Brodie.

After the Revolution, the whole revenues of the diocese and the Castle of Spynie, with the precinct, fell to the Crown. The Castle was allowed to fall into ruins. The wood, iron work, and finest stones of the buildings were carried away by the country people. The palace and precinct continued in possession of the Crown down to about the year 1840, when they were sold to the Earl of Fife, on the valuation of the late Mr. Peter Brown, at a very moderate price. About 15 years previous to the sale, the Barons of Exchequer had given orders to preserve what remained of the ruins. They erected a lodge for a keeper, and planted and enclosed the Hill of Spynie with larch and fir wood, which now, after the lapse of 40 years, is pretty well advanced, and is a great improvement. Round the palace the ground has been planted with hardwood, which also has made good progress, and has beautified as well as sheltered the place. The Earl

of Fife has taken an interest in the palace and grounds, and is caring for and protecting the fine old ruin.

We have stated before that the family of Douglas sold the estate of Spynie to James Brodie of Whitehill, about the close of the 17th century. There were three successive proprietors of this family, viz.:—1st, James Brodie, the purchaser, who was brother of George Brodie of Brodie; 2nd, James Brodie, his son, who was Sheriff-Depute of the County of Elgin; and 3rd, James Brodie, grandson of the purchaser. This last proprietor was born in 1744. In 1759, by the death of his second cousin, Alexander Brodie of Brodie, he succeeded to the whole Brodie estates. He married, in 1768, Lady Margaret Duff, daughter of William, Earl of Fife. About or shortly after the year 1770, he conveyed the estate of Spynie, with Kinneddar, Aikenhead, Monaughty, and Aslisk, to his brother-in-law, James, Earl of Fife, and thus terminated his connection with Spynie. The Brodie family possessed the estate for about 70 years. The Duffs have been proprietors for about a century, four Earls of Fife successively having held it.

#### KINTRAE.

In a charter of Bishop Bricius, of date 1203-1222, founding the chaplainry of the Castle of Duffus, mention is made of the Church of Kintrae in the following terms:—"Ad viam que vadit de veteri ecclesia de Kyntra," i.e., *To the road which goes down to the old Church of Kyntrae*. In this charter, this Church is three times stated to be *old*. Lambert, chaplain to William the Lion, was rector, and appears, under the designation of *Parson of Kintrae*, as witness to a deed executed between the years 1187 and 1203. The Churches of Kintrae and Spynie were united by Andrew, Bishop of Moray, prior to 1242. Not a vestige of Kintrae Church or Churchyard now remains, although the site of the latter is still traceable in the centre of a field on the south-west corner of Westfield. It has been remarked that it has scarcely grown anything to reward the agricultural enterprise that desecrated it with the ploughshare.

#### MYRESIDE.

This was Church land, and, at an early date, was certainly composed almost entirely of moor, marsh, and



woodland, and only by slow degrees, and under the fostering care of the Bishops, was converted partly into arable ground. On the north side, it was washed by the waters of the loch, and on the south bounded by the lands of Bishopmill. At the period of the Reformation, it was occupied by five tenants. It was a part of the land granted by Bishop Patrick Hepburn to the Regent Earl of Moray at the Reformation. We find the lands referred to in a charter granted by Alexander Douglas, Bishop of Moray, in favour of James, Earl of Moray, after the restoration of Episcopacy, in 1606. They continued in Lord Moray's family probably till near the close of the 17th century, when they were sold to Sutherland of Kinstearny (afterwards designed of Greenhall), and successively held in property by John Sutherland of Greenhall, and his son, Lawrence Sutherland. By the latter, they were sold, prior to the year 1770, to James, Earl of Findlater and Seafield, in whose family they still continue.

It may be here remarked that the Findlater family had no property in Morayshire prior to the middle of last century.

In 1758 the Baronies of Rothes, Easter Elchies, and Edinville were purchased from John Grant, Baron of Exchequer, and between that date and 1770, the estates of Birnie, Main, Linkwood, Bishopmill, Myreside, and Burgh Briggs were acquired by the Findlater family.

In the year 1772 a very considerable improvement was made, partly on Myreside, and partly on the Bishopmill lands, by planting about 150 acres with Scotch fir. It was moorland and very bleak, producing no pasture and only a covering of short, dry heath, and did not bring in a farthing of rent. The plantation was made at very small expense, and the thinnings soon repaid the outlay. The droppings of the needles of the fir enriched the soil, and, after the lapse of 30 years, an experiment was made in attempting the improvement of a few acres. It was found that the ground made tolerably arable land. From time to time this has been repeated, until almost the whole wood has been removed, and converted into good arable ground at a moderate expense. The farm of Newfield has been partly made out from the ground covered with wood, and that of Woodlands entirely so; and both in a favourable season, when rain abounds, yield



good crops of corn, turnips, and grass. The wood grown was of excellent quality, and not only amply repaid expenses but gave a good return in the way of rent to the proprietor. In the progress of events, part of the farm of Myreside has thus been added to Newfields and Woodlands, and the boundaries with the adjoining estate of Bishopmill have been considerably changed.

During the latter part of last century, the lands of Myreside were tenanted by Mr. Lawrence Sutherland of Greenhall, who sold the property to the Earl of Findlater, thereafter by Mr. Hugh Tod, both well-known men. Since that time the farm has been well enclosed with substantial stone dykes, and formed into neat and convenient lots adapted for modern husbandry, and the land is well farmed by Mrs. Russell, the present tenant.

#### FINDRASSIE.

This estate, anciently called Fynrossy, stands on the west side of Myreside, and is bounded by it on the east and south, by Quarrelwood on the west, and by the now dry bed of the Loch of Spynie on the north. In ancient times it was principally grass and woodland, with a little corn-land on the north side. It was washed by the sea when the loch was salt water; and, when it became fresh, there was abundance of coarse star-grass on the marsh beside the water, and on the four holmes or islets belonging to the estate. Being on the north side of the hill, it is not so sweet and sunny as upon the southern slopes, but still it is a pleasant retired residence. It was Church land, and even after it was feued out by the Bishop of Moray, it still held of him as the superior, and, in some measure, claimed his protection. The first mention of the property is in a dispute between Walter de Moravia and Andrew, Bishop of Moray, about the use of the wood and moor of Spynie, and "Fynrossy," which appears to have been amicably settled by agreement, on the 10th October, 1226. It is again referred to in a dispute on the same subject between Simon, Bishop of Moray, and Friskinus, Lord of Duffus, in 1248. The lands were feued out by Alexander, Bishop of Moray, to John Forbes of that ilk, and Margaret Forbes, his spouse, for good and faithful service and assistance, on 18th July, 1378. They were resigned again into the hands of the Bishop by John

Flathson, Mair-General of the diocese, in the year 1395. A charter of feu farm was granted by Patrick Hepburn, Bishop of Moray, with consent of the Chapter, to James Innes of Rothmakenzie, and Catherine Gordon, his spouse, dated at the Cathedral Church, 6th November, 1540, at a feu-duty of 15 merks, 1 mart, 1 sheep, 2 dozen capons, 2 bolls of oats, with fodder, and 40s. for 6 bolls of dry multure. Another charter was granted to the same James Innes on 7th April, 1545, and a charter, confirming a sale by Alexander Innes of Crombie, with consent of Elizabeth Forbes, his wife, to George Sinclair, son of George, Earl of Caithness, reserving the Bishop's Moss, otherwise the Laverock Moss, dated at the Palace of Spynie, 26th May, 1569. In the latter part of the 16th century the estate was in possession of Robert Leslie, second son of George, Earl of Rothes, by Lady Margaret Crichton, his first wife, only daughter of William, Lord Crichton, by the Lady Cicely, his wife, second daughter to King James II. of Scotland. Robert Leslie was the immediate younger brother of the gallant Norman Leslie, Master of Rothes, and when his brother was forfeited as accessory to the murder of Cardinal Beaton, Robert should have succeeded to the Earldom, but his father, for some reason, passed him over, and, with consent of the Crown, got the title and estate of Rothes settled upon Andrew Leslie, his son by a second marriage—a most unjust proceeding. All that Robert got in lieu of it was Findrassie, and some other lands in Moray and Ross. The reason of Robert being deprived of the estate and titles of Rothes arose probably from the fact that Andrew Leslie, his half-brother, married Grizzel Hamilton, daughter of Sir James Hamilton of Evandale, natural brother of the Duke of Chatelherault, then Regent of Scotland, by whose influence the succession both to the estate and titles of Rothes was settled upon Andrew Leslie and Grizzel Hamilton, to the deprivation of the family of the first marriage.

The family of Leslie were considerable improvers, and appear to have done a good deal in that way both in Moray and Ross, particularly in the way of planting. These improvements were executed in the time of Abraham Leslie, who was a man of enlarged mind, had seen much of the world, and who had the means of doing so.



The moors of Findrassie were planted with Scotch fir. The trees have now reached maturity, and being of fine quality yield a rich return to the present proprietors.

The present mansion-house of Findrassie has the appearance of having been erected about a century ago, and was certainly built by Abraham Leslie. It is a commodious dwelling of the old Scotch style, which could easily be improved by giving it a new front. The garden is large, and bears great crops of fruit, and is well-walled. The grounds are well laid out and pretty extensive. After the death of Mr. Charles Leslie, in 1807, the estates both in Moray and Ross were soon disposed of by his successors, and, in the short period of eighteen years, the whole were sold, and the family landless.

During Colonel Grant's occupancy of the estate, a period of about ten years, considerable improvements were made by planting and embellishment, and some new fields added on the west side of the Duffus road, by grubbing out the fir trees, and converting the ground into arable land. Also a good deal of draining and fencing took place. Colonel Grant died about the year 1835, and his Trustees sold the estate in June, 1836, to James Ogilvie Tod, Esquire, who had been in the Civil Service in India, and had then lately returned with a fortune. Mr. Tod did not long enjoy the property, having died the following year, and left the estates in the hands of Trustees, for behoof of his only child, Helen Tod, now Mrs. Forster.

See "*Laurus Lesbœana*," published by the Jesuit Fathers of the Scotch Mission, on the Continent, in 1692, where there is an account of the four first Lairds of Findrassie; also, an account of the Leslies of Findrassie, by the late Colonel Leslie of Balquhain.

#### QUARRELWOOD, NOW CALLED QUARRYWOOD.

This estate, in its present bounds, is much more extensive than it was in ancient times. It now comprehends Quarrywood, Loanhead, Kintrae, Rosebrae, Leggat, Rosehaugh, and other farms, and extends to the top of the hill bounding Morriston, Sheriffmill, and Aldroughty, at the south. In old writings it is written "*Querelwode*," "*Correilwod*," and "*Quarelwode*;" and, as it had this name before there were quarries in the hill, it may be

somewhat difficult to ascertain the meaning of the word. The word "Quarrel," in old writings, sometimes means a quarry of stones; it also sometimes stands for *game*, or the engines by which game is killed. The name may, therefore, mean either the Quarrywood, by which it is now known, or the wood of game, or in which game is killed. It sufficiently answers to either of these appellations. It is probable that the whole, or greater part, of this estate, in ancient times, formed part of the Earldom of Moray, as some of the farms continued to do until a very late date.

The first proprietor of Quarrelwood, of whom we have any distinct account, is Sir Robert Lauder, or Lavedre. His father, also Sir Robert, was Justiciary of Lothian, and Ambassador to England, in the time of King Robert Bruce, and engaged in similar service for King David Bruce. Both father and son seem to have been present at the battle of Halidon Hill, in 1333, after which fatal event the younger Sir Robert, being Justiciary of the North, hastened to occupy the Castle of Urquhart, on Loch Ness, one of the few fortalices which held out against the power of Edward of England. It is supposed that at this time he acquired the lands of Quarrelwood, Grieshop, Brightmony, and Kinsteary, which continued to be possessed by his descendants, in the female line, for many generations. He designates himself as "Robertus de Lavadre, Dominus de Quarrelwood, in Moravia." This Robert Lauder obtained a charter from John Pilmore, Bishop of Moray, for good services, of the half davoch lands of Aberbreachy, and the lands of Auchmunie, within the Barony of Urquhart, for payment of four merks yearly, dated at Elgin, in the feast of St. Nicholas, 1333. He founded a chaplainry in the Cathedral Church of Moray, at the Altar of St. Peter, out of his lands of Brightmony and Kinsteary, and Mill of Auldearn, for his own soul, and those of his ancestors and successors, and particularly for the soul of Hugh, Earl of Ross. The deed is dated at Dunfermline the 1st May, 1362, which gift is confirmed by a writ from King David Bruce, dated at Elgin, the 10th May, in the 38th year of his reign. Sir Robert Lauder is said to have had a family of sons and daughters. One daughter was married to Sir Robert Chisholm, and her father conveyed to her, or her



husband, in her right, the lands of Quarrelwood, Kinsteary, Brightmony, and others.

He had a daughter, Janet, married to Hugh Rose of Kilravock, to whom he conveyed various lands in Strathnairn. He is supposed to have had no heir-male of his own body, and to have been succeeded by his brother, John Chisholm, who was again succeeded by his son, Robert, who had a daughter and only child Morella, proprietor of the lands of Quarrelwood, Brightmony, Kinsteary, &c.—the heir-male of the Chisholms succeeding to the paternal estate in Strathglass. Morella Chisholm married Alexander Sutherland, third laird of Duffus, of that name, who thereupon added to his armorial bearings a boar's head erased, being part of the arms of Chisholm. (See "Morays of Duffus," above, pages 84, 89, vol. II.)

The small farm of Hill of Quarrywood, or Laverock Loch, tenanted by Mr. Alexander Lawson, is curiously situated, in the midst of the extensive fir wood on the hill. Although within two miles of the town of Elgin, it is a spot of extreme solitude, and has the appearance of a clearance in an American forest. The eastern part of the farm is the bed of an old morass. In the time of the Bishops, it was a moss, attached to Spynie, and called the Laverock Moss. When the peats were all dug out, it became a shallow lake, on which the young men of Elgin used to skate in winter. By the growth of long grass in it, the loch was converted into a mere marsh, which was drained by Mr. Lawson some years ago, and is now converted into an arable field of some extent, in which all kinds of crops are grown.

#### WESTFIELD.

The estate of Westfield consists of the lands of Inchbrock, Inchaggarty, and Westfield proper. The two former point to a period when the sea ebbed and flowed in the Lowlands of Moray, and when the lands of Westfield were submerged in the waves. The time when the sea receded from Westfield is uncertain, but it must have been within a comparatively recent period, and when the Saxon or English language had taken root in the land. Previous to that time, Inchbrock and Inchaggarty had been islands of the sea:—the former the Isle of Brocks or Badgers, and the latter the Priest's Island.

The estate of Westfield is described in the titles as follows:—"All and whole the towns and lands of Westfield and Inchaggarty, with the manor place, houses, biggings, yards, orchards, mills, mill lands, parts, pendicles, and universal pertinents of the same, lying within the parish of Spynie and Sheriffdom of Elgin and Forres: As also all and whole the town and lands of Inchbrock, with the houses, biggings, yards, orchards, tofts, crofts, parts, pendicles, and universal pertinents thereof, as the same were formerly occupied and possessed by the deceased James and George Dunbar of Inchbrock, lying within the parish of Spynie, Regality thereof, and Sheriffdom of Elgin and Forres, aforesaid, together with the teinds, parsonage and vicarage of said several lands, and the whole seats and lofts, and the burial-place belonging to the said lands in the Kirk of Spynie." The lands of Inchbrock were Church lands, and continued in possession of the Bishops until the period of the Reformation, when that great dilapidator of the Bishoprick, Patrick Hepburn, feued the same, with consent of the Chapter, for a sum of 200 merks, to Alexander Anderson, in Wester Alves, and Alexander Anderson, burgess of Elgin, his son, and Bessy Gordon, his son's wife. The lands seem to have been previously possessed by Alexander Anderson, the father, as tenant. Westfield was never Church land, and the earliest accounts we have of the estate show that it belonged to the Earldom of Moray. The last of the Dunbars of Grangehill (mentioned above by Shaw) sold the estate to Sir James Grant of Grant on the 1st June, 1769, who sold it to Joseph Robertson, merchant in London, on the 17th June, 1774; who sold it to Francis Russell, advocate, on the 24th Oct., 1781. Mary Bannerman, his wife, conveyed it to Thomas Sellar, writer, Elgin, on the 2nd May, 1808; whose son, Patrick Sellar, heired it on the 16th Feb., 1818; whose Trustees sold it to Hugh Maclean in May, 1862. In less than a century, Westfield has changed proprietors no fewer than six times.

#### BISHOPMILL.

The small property of Bishopmill\* has been so mixed up latterly with the improved lands of Myreside that it

\* This estate seems to have been known in ancient times by the name of Frankoklaw.



is now impossible to separate them. It was originally very small, comprising the ridge of land overlooking the Lossie, and extending only a little way back. It now forms a kind of semicircle, running back nearly three quarters of a mile between Deanshaugh at the east, and Morriston at the west.

It is probable a mill was erected on the Lossie here as early as the time when Bishop Bricius settled at Spynie, in the year 1203. When the Episcopal seat was fixed there, the convenience of a mill must have been a matter of great importance. The first particular mention of it, however, does not occur until the year 1393, when there seems to have been a small village there, perhaps a few houses. It is stated to be near the town of Elgin. In the Rental of the Bishoprick, in 1565, the lands are let to six tenants, at the gross rent of four pounds, three quarters of a mart, three sheep, four dozen of capons, three lambs, three fowls, three bolls of oats, with fodder, nine bolls of dry multure, for grassum, and other services; a small croft at twenty-five shillings, six capons, one fowl, and 8s. 8d. of *mart silver*; four small houses, being the extent of the village, at twelve shillings, and twelve capons; the mill, with knaveship, and outsucken, at four pounds, one dozen capons, one pig, and the support of the mill. In the year 1566, Bishop Patrick Hepburn granted a charter of feu farm of the town and lands called "The Bischopis Mylne," with the corn mill, the lands called "The Acris," and four houses called "The foure Cott Housis," in the same town, to James Innes of Drainie, and Catherine Gordon, his wife, in liferent, and Robert Innes, their son, and Helen Ross, his future spouse, in fee, with liberty of digging turfs or peats in the moor called "The Laverok Moss," *alias* "The Bischopis Moss,"—reserving to the Bishop, and all passing, the common road which goes from the Palace of Spynie to Elgin, and also the other road which goes by the cultivated land and the moor, towards "Bischoppis Mylne," near the hill called "Cuthilbyrne Hill." \* In the following century we find Bishopmill in possession of Alexander Dunbar, son of Robert Dunbar of Burgie. He married a Margaret Ayton, but had no issue, and, dying in 1723, he left his estate to

\* This name, "Cuthilbyrne," appears to be now entirely lost. It would be difficult to say where the spot is.

his nephew, John Dunbar of Burgie, advocate, who died about the year 1750. His son, John Dunbar, sold the estate, with the Dean's House, in Elgin, to James Robertson, Provost of Elgin, who sold it to the 6th Earl of Findlater, prior to 1770. The property has continued in his Lordship's family ever since, with the exception of the mill and mill croft, which for some time belonged to James Miln, banker in Elgin, but were acquired by the Earl again in the early part of the present century, and has lately been feued out by the present proprietor, the Earl of Seafield, to John Allan, who carries on a large business at the mills in flour and meal. Shortly after the Earl of Findlater purchased the estate, his Lordship planted a considerable extent of moor ground, belonging to Bishopmill and Myreside, with Scotch fir trees.

To the eastward of Bishopmill is the small property of DEANSHAUGH, belonging to Adam Longmore, W.S., Edinburgh. I have great doubts, however, whether it is within the bounds of the parish of Spynie, but rather in St. Andrews.\* As, however, it is generally reckoned in Spynie, it may be described briefly. In the end of last century these subjects belonged to John Ritchie, merchant in Elgin, who erected on the Lossie a mill for the manufactory of tobacco, a waulkmill, a flaxmill, and bleaching machinery. This trade was carried on with considerable success. After Ritchie's time, the property was sold to John Forsyth, banker in Elgin, who left it to his only daughter, wife of the late Adam Longmore, of the Exchequer, and it now belongs to his son, Mr. Longmore, W.S. The manufactory of tobacco, flax, and bleaching, have, with the changes of the times, passed away, and the only work now carried on is a sawmill. Mr. Longmore has erected a very neat villa on the ground, and has planted a number of ornamental trees, with a variety of shrubs, and the place is kept in the greatest order and neatness by his present tenants.

\* The parish of Elgin, perhaps, has the best claim to Deanshaugh, with the low lands adjoining, for it is perfectly apparent that at no very distant period the Lossie had flowed to the eastward of it, and that it was then embraced in the Cathedral grounds.



## MORRISTON.

This estate was Church land, and belonged to the Bishop of Moray. It is bounded on the south by the Lossie, on the east by Bishopmill, on the north by Quarrelwood, and on the west by Sheriffmill. It is so blended now with the Earl of Fife's other lands that its ancient boundaries can hardly be known. It consists of a haugh of considerable extent, lying along the Lossie, of a light, gravelly soil, with a considerable extent of hill ground. On the slope extending from the fir plantations to the road passing to Bishopmill, this hill ground had probably, at some distant date, been improved from the moor. The dwelling-house is very pleasantly situated on a rising ground, near the river, a fine, dry, warm, and sheltered situation, having some young plantations and a few old trees about it. The name of the property is written variously — "Murrastoun," "Morristoun," and "Murrays-toun." \* The first notice we have of it is contained in a charter granted by David, Bishop of Moray, to William, the son of Adam, the son of Stephen, burgess of Elgin, of the half davoch land of "Medilhalch," which lies between the land of Wthyrspyny (Sheriffmiln), on the one part, and the land of Frankoklaw (Bishopmiln), on the other part, on the north side of the water of "Lossyn." This charter is dated at Elgin, the 23rd March, 1309, and the reddendo is four shillings annually, one half payable at the feast of Pentecost, and the other half at the feast of Saint Martin, with other services, and the payment of the usual multure at the mill of Mallathy (supposed Bishopmill). The next charter is from William de Spyny, Bishop of Moray, without date, but supposed to be at or prior to the year 1400, in favour of Megota de Moravia, daughter of John de Moravia, proprietor of these lands, on her marriage with John de Dolas. It is probable that from this family of Moray, or de Moravia, that the name of Moraystoun had been given to the property. The estate was in the following century possessed by Innes of Crombie, as a vassal of the Bishop of Moray, and it is contained in the rental of the Bishoprick

\* The property is also called Middlehaugh. Auchter Spynie, or Sheriffmill, was called Upperhaugh, and Burgh Briggs, Westerhaugh. (See Old Statistical Account, vol. 10, page 628).

in 1565. We find a charter of confirmation by Patrick Hepburn, Bishop of Moray, dated at the Palace of Spynie, 21st March, 1570, confirming a sale by Alexander Innes of Crommye, with consent of Isabella Forbes, his spouse, in favour of John Annand, Provost of the Burgh of Elgin, and Janet Cumming, his spouse, of the lands of "Murrastoun," which lie between the lands of Uchter Spynie, now called "Scherefemyln," at the west, and the lands of "Frankoklaw" \* at the east, on the north side of Lossie, with the piece of land called Burrow Briggs, on the south side of Lossie. After the above description the following words occur:—"Reservand to me and my airs, ye hail hill callit the Hill of Murrastoun, as ye merche stanas sall be set in at ye end of the lang riggis descendand nort and sowt, except the quarrel thairof, and stanes to be win yairin, quhilk I will to stand in commountie to ye said Jhone and his airs." The feu-duty payable to the Bishop is four pounds sixteen shillings. In the year 1606, when Episcopacy was restored in Scotland, the lands of Morriston seem, by some means, to have been recovered by Alexander Douglas, Bishop of Moray, and in the year 1609 conveyed to Alexander Douglas, his son, and Mary Innes, his spouse, along with Spynie and Burgh Briggs. From Alexander Douglas the estate passed to Gavin Douglas, perhaps his brother, who had a great deal of property in Elgin. John Douglas, his son, succeeded. He was served heir to his father in a great variety of burgh lands, before the Magistrates of Elgin, in 1654, and he was also served heir before the Sheriff of Elgin, in the half davocho land of Middlehaugh, or Morriston, on 28th December, 1655. On 23rd October, 1665, John Douglas wadset these lands to Robert Martin, writer in Edinburgh, for 8260 merks, and in 1668 he discharged the right of reversion, and Martin became absolute proprietor. His right was confirmed by charter from Murdo Mackenzie, Bishop of Moray, the superior, dated 22nd October, 1672. He also acquired about the same time great part of the Douglas burgh lands, in and about Elgin.

Robert Martin was a very remarkable public man in his day, and, as little is now known of his history, I shall here endeavour to state what I have found out about him. He was the son of Robert Martin, burgess of

\* This name, Frankoklaw, is now entirely lost.



Elgin, and received a liberal education from his father, who seems to have been a person of some substance. The date of his birth may have been about the years 1615 or 1620. Being bred to the law, he went to Edinburgh in early life, and, after having finished his education, he commenced business there as a writer. He married a Jean Porterfield, a daughter of George Porterfield, Provost of Glasgow, about 1660.

When the Episcopal party got the entire ascendancy, in 1662, and the Presbyterian side entirely put down, he must have become a marked man, and deprived of his public situations. After this period he spent his time partly in Edinburgh, attending to his own business and to the interests of his party in Church and State, and he was also a good deal at his residence in Elgin, looking after his properties in the North. He was a great friend of Lord Brodie, and was occasionally at Brodie House. In the Diary of Lord Brodie we find many notices of Mr. Martin, who died either in April or May, in Holland, being exhausted by weakness, disease, and increasing years, and the troubles of these distracted times. His estates were all forfeited to the Crown; but his wife, Jean Porterfield, had the influence, through her friends, to procure a gift of the lands of Morriston in favour of herself, which is dated at Whitehall, the 9th November, 1686.

By the 18th Act of William and Mary, the forfeiture was rescinded, and John Martin, the eldest son of the family, made up a title as heir to his father, by retour dated 1st December, 1691. John Martin would appear to have executed a conveyance in favour of his mother in 1691, and probably died in 1692. Mrs. Martin, his mother, was infested in 1696, and was a party to a contract of marriage between her son, William Martin, writer in Edinburgh, and Margaret Lockhart, only daughter of Mungo Lockhart of Harwood, dated 4th March, 1704. Mrs. Martin, by that deed, disposes to her son the lands of Aikenway, with salmon fishing; the lands of Collie, Hillfold, and Whitewreath; the lands of Kirktown of St. Andrews, Kirkhill, Easter and Wester Calcots, Middlehaugh, or Morriston, Lady Hill, crofts and roods of land about Elgin; and Margaret Lockhart disposes to William Martin and herself, and the longest liver of them,

in liferent, and the heirs male or female of the marriage, the lands of Little Harwood, Cowhill, and Dybog. The Martin family were not prosperous. By the year 1750, the most of their lands had been sold, and what remained, viz., the estate of Harwood, in the west of Scotland, and Morriston, with part of Barflathills, Baxter's Croft, and some other crofts about Elgin, were drowned in debt, and a process of ranking and sale having been brought by the creditors, the lands were sold by the Court of Session, and Morriston was purchased by William, Earl of Fife, in 1756. In this family the property has remained ever since, which makes an excellent addition to their lands in this parish, having a fine frontage towards Elgin.

#### SHERIFFMILL.

The lands of Sheriffmill are beautifully situated, having the Lossie for their boundary at the east and south, Aldroughty on the west, and the fine oak forest at the north, sheltering it from the cold northern blasts. It has a light gravelly but kindly soil, and, with abundance of summer showers, it produces good crops of all kinds of grain. The old name of the property is Auchter or Uchter Spynie, and it has also been called Upperhaugh. The first notice we have of this property is contained in a grant from Andrew, Bishop of Moray, to Walter de Moravia, Lord of Duffus,\* of a site for a mill on the Lossie, dated the 6th of the Ides of October, 1237. The words of the charter are:—"Dedisse et concessisse et hac carta nostra confirmasse Waltero de Moravia, et heredibus suis, unum situm Molendini super Lossy, in terra nostra de Uchterspyny." The mill was accordingly erected by the family of de Moravia, and until nearly our own time continued a separate estate from the lands, as we shall have occasion to show hereafter. The mill is also mentioned in a charter by Archibald, Bishop of Moray, to William de Fedreth, and Dame Christiana de Moravia, his wife, who had rights to it as proprietors of the third

\* The descendants of the family of Moravia are still the highest in rank in Scotland. Among others, are the ducal houses of Sutherland, Athole, Hamilton, and Buccleuch, and the late Dukes of Douglas and Queensberry, and many nobles of less rank.



of Duffus. This charter is dated at Kinneddar, in Moray, on the Sabbath day next before the Feast of All Saints, in the year 1294. With regard to the lands. The earliest notice of the lands is contained in a charter by David, Bishop of Moray, dated at Elgin the 23rd March, 1309, in favour of William, the son of Adam, the son of Stephen, burgess of Elgin, whereby he confirms to him the whole land of Wtyrspynty, in excambion for the lands of Qwytford and Innerlothy,\* the mill of Innerlothy and Milton, but reserving the site of the mill, which is called the mill of the Sheriff of Elgin, upon the water of Lossyn. This is the first notice of the name Sheriffmill, which may have arisen from the family of de Moravia being Sheriffs of the shire of Elgin, and of their successors, the Cheynes, being Sheriffs of the shire of Banff. In a charter by Bishop Hepburn, in 1570, the lands get the name of Uchterspynie, but are there said to be now called "Scherefemyln." In the Rental of the Bishoprick, in 1565, the proprietor, or vassal, is called "Alexander Urquhard," Provost of Forres, perhaps Urquhart of Burdsyards. In the year 1639, Sheriffmill was purchased by Thomas Calder, merchant in Elgin, a descendant of Calder of Assuanlie, a cadet of the house of Calder. He was Provost of Elgin in 1665 and 1669. He was succeeded by his son, Sir James Calder, who acquired the estate of Muirton, in Kinloss parish, and who was created a Baronet of Nova Scotia, in 1686. Either he or his father erected the fine old turreted mansion in the High Street of Elgin, exactly where North Street and the Assembly Rooms now stand, which, with its extensive gardens behind, must have been a very handsome residence.

Sir James Calder, and William King of Newmiln, carried on a very large foreign trade from the port of Findhorn, exporting barley, malt, hides, tallow, cured beef, salmon, and other commodities, and importing wines, brandy, tobacco, sugar, spices, dried fruits, and various other articles, in return. The business must have been a large one, and the export of malt, in particular, was great, previous to the union with England. Sir James Calder was succeeded by his son, Sir Thomas, who married, in

\* The lands above referred to are probably Whitefield and Inverlochty. If there was a mill at Inverlochty, the fall of water in these days must have been much greater than now.

1711, a daughter of Sir John Scott of Ancrum, by whom he had a family. His father had left the estate much embarrassed, and Sir Thomas was unable to keep it. Wm. Duff of Dipple, father of William, first Earl of Fife, acquired the estate in the beginning of last century, and it still continues the property of the Earl of Fife. The mill of Sheriffmill has gone through many more changes. Being a part of the estate of Duffus, on the failure of the family of de Moravia, it fell, in the proportion of two-thirds, to Reginald Cheyne, and one-third to William de Fedderet. In the end of the 15th century the proprietors of the mill were—the Earl Marischal, Douglas of Pittendreich, and Sutherland of Duffus. In 1631, Earl Marischal sold his third to James Sutherland, tutor of Duffus, and in 1659 Alexander, Lord Duffus, purchased from Sir Ludovick Gordon of Gordonstown, the successor of Douglas of Pittendreich, another third, so that the whole mill and mill lands then belonged to the Duffus family, and continued in their possession until 1707, when, with the rest of the Duffus estate, they were sold to Archibald Dunbar of Thunderton. His successor, Archibald Dunbar of Newton, sold the mill to William, Lord Braco, in 1740, who settled it upon Arthur Duff of Orton, his youngest son. The late Sir Archibald Dunbar repurchased the mill formerly pertaining to the Duffus estate, from Mr. Arthur Duff, about the end of last century, and sold it to the late James, Earl of Fife, on 22nd June, 1818. The mill and adjoining estate are, since that date, one united property, belonging to the Fife family.

In the latter part of last century, the farm of Sheriffmill was occupied by James Walker, doctor of medicine, a very eccentric person, who had been a practitioner in Elgin of the old school. He had married the Dowager Lady Westfield and settled at Sheriffmill. His mode of farming was to keep the land exceedingly clean, to drill the crops, and use no manure. In the Old Statistical Account of the parish we find the following statement regarding Dr. Walker's farming:—"It will not be deemed improper to take notice of the cultivation of the farm of Sheriffmill, rented by James Walker, Esq., M.D. This gentleman, in the early part of his life, entered with all the ardour of enthusiasm into the horse-hoeing husbandry, on the plan of JETHRO TULL, in which he has ever since



persevered, with unfailing steadiness raising crops of wheat, barley, and beans, without a particle of dung, always following the intervals (about three feet) for each succeeding crop, and thus completely demonstrating the effect of cultivation without the use of manure. Although every operation has been performed with the nicest accuracy, and in its proper season, and though the soil of Sheriffmill seems to be well calculated for this kind of husbandry, being light and sandy, yet the result has not been such as to encourage imitation. The corn is indeed superior in quality to any in the country, but the quantity, by the acre, much less than is raised in the broadcast way, on the same kind of soil, well ploughed and manured."

Dr. Walker died about the end of last century, or beginning of the present one, and was interred in the Elgin Cathedral, not far from the west gate, on the right hand side of the entry. His tombstone was very small, with the simple words "James Walker, M.D." on it. The stone has been removed, and some other occupant has seized the ground, and so the worthy doctor has now nothing to mark where his ashes were laid. Since his time more than one tenant has possessed the farm. Latterly it has been occupied, along with the mill, by the late John Lawson, and now by his son, Alexander Lawson. By the late Mr. Lawson the farm has been entirely enclosed with substantial stone dykes, and laid off in neat and regular fields. The land is now laboured from the adjoining farm of Oldmills, and the steading here is not required. The old farm-house, the mansion of the estate, was long occupied by respectable tenants. The last of them was the late James Mellis, long tenant of Spynie, who died here some years ago, at a very advanced period of life. Since his death the venerable dwelling has been entirely removed, and all vestiges of it carried away.

#### SCROGGIEMILL.

On the west end of the estate of Sheriffmill, and not far by the road from the lower mill, although, by the windings of the river, at a considerable distance, for the stream here takes a most tortuous course, stands Scroggiemill. It is only an oatmeal mill. It is well situated, with a great command of water, but seems now to be of

little use or value. I have not found out when this building was erected. It has no appearance of any great antiquity, and perhaps is not older than the early part of last century. It was likely built by the Earl of Fife, for the accommodation of his tenants, before he acquired Sheriffmill. The removal of this mill would be a great improvement to the country. On the bank, above the mill, there are beautiful situations for small villas. The ground looks due south, warm and sunny; protected from the north winds by the Quarrywood plantations, and having a delightful view of the windings of the river. It is wonderful that such pleasant sites have not long since been eagerly purchased, or taken on feu.

#### ALDROUGHTY.

This is the most westerly estate in the parish, being bounded partly by the Lossie, and partly by the lands of Inverlochty and Mosstowie, at the south, Sheriffmill at the east, Quarrelwood at the north, and the parish of Alves at the west. It consists of a long narrow field, extending along the river, at the east side, of light, sandy land. At the west side the land is of a rich alluvial soil, and bears excellent crops, but liable to be flooded in wet weather. The name Aldroughty, or, as it was written of old, "Aldrochty," is said to mean the mischievous burn. This is not very applicable to its present state, for there is now no burn here; but it may have meant the Lossie, which, in ancient times, running on a higher level, and with a stronger current, may have both flooded the lands and cut its banks more than now; or the water of Lochty, now entering the Lossie farther up, may have, in days of old, done so here; or some of the Mosstowie burns may have then terminated their course at this spot. In short, with so many changes, it is useless to conjecture what the origin or cause of the name may be. The house of Aldroughty is pleasantly situated, on a high bank above the river, and is a conspicuous object from a distance.

This estate was Church land, and part of the Bishoprick of Moray. It seems, however, to have been early feued out, and in the 14th century was held of the Bishop by a family of the name of Sibbald. An inquisition was held at Bishopmiln on the penult day of August, 1393, before the Bishop and a jury of sixteen; among whom we find



the names of Sir Robert Chisholm, John de Dolles of that ilk, and Alexander Innes of Innes, by which it was found that Robert Sibbald died vest, and seized, as of fee, in the lands of Aldroughty, with the pertinents. The Bishop must, however, have afterwards resumed possession of this estate, for I find that Bishop Patrick Hepburn, with consent of the Chapter, on the last day of March, 1554, granted an assedation of "Meikle Innerlochtie and Auld-rochtie," in favour of David and Thomas Hepburn, in liferent, for payment of £4 13s. 4d. yearly in money, besides grain and other rents. After the Reformation, this property, with many others, was conveyed to James, Earl of Moray, Regent of Scotland, by Bishop Patrick Hepburn, by which he secured his own comfort and safety, and a right to dispose of the remaining lands of the diocese as he thought fit. In a charter of feu-farm and *novo damus*, granted by Alexander Douglas, Bishop of Moray, in favour of James, Earl of Moray, Lord Doune and Abernethie, about the year 1606, we find, among a long list of estates, the lands of Auldrechtie thereby conveyed, the feu-duty payable annually being £4 13s. 4d. of money, three quarters of a mart, two sheep, two lambs, two geese, twelve capons, two bolls of oats with fodder, three bolls of barley for dry multure, and £1 11s. 1½d. for grassum, every three years. About half a century after this, Aldroughty seems to have come into possession of Lord Duffus' family, perhaps in the year 1653, when Lord Duffus purchased Ardgay and other lands from the Earl of Moray. In the latter part of the 17th century it was in possession (along with Mosstowie, which it joins) of the Honourable William Sutherland of Roscommon, third son of James, second Lord Duffus. This gentleman married, in the year 1702, Helen Duff, eldest daughter of William Duff of Dipple, and sister of William, Earl of Fife. After the Rebellion, in 1715, we hear little more of the Hon. Wm. Sutherland.

His widow, Helen Duff, better known by the name of Lady Roscommon, was well cared for by her father, and by her brother, William, Lord Braco, afterwards Earl of Fife. She had the mansion-house or Castle of Quarrelwood for her residence, and a suitable allowance from her husband's estate, and was much respected. From what tradition reports of her, she had much of the strong sense

of her father's family. She was alive in 1736, and may have lived many years after that time. After her death the Castle of Quarrelwood was permitted to go to decay, and was at last converted into a quarry, its materials being used for erection of farm-houses and other buildings. The foundations were only finally removed about thirty years ago.

Duff of Dipple, having large securities on Aldroughty and Mosstowie, claimed from the Commissioners of the forfeited estates to be put in possession of these properties under the deeds which he held from his son-in-law, William Sutherland; and special instructions were given by him to his agent, Mr. Ludovick Brodie, Writer to the Signet, to that effect, on 4th June, 1717. Dipple made good his rights, and got possession of both Mosstowie and Aldroughty, which continue to be the property of his descendant, the Earl of Fife, to the present day.

A family of the name of Hepburn had Aldroughty, either as tenants or feuars, under the Bishops and Earl of Moray, during the end of the 16th and part of the 17th century. They were also proprietors of the adjoining lands of Inverlochty, of the lands of Tearie, in Dyke, and part of Birnie. They were illegitimate descendants of Bishop Patrick Hepburn. The male part of this family eventually settled in the south of Scotland; but in the female line they have still many representatives in the north. They were respectable people, and attained a considerable position in the country. Eventually Inverlochty, as well as Aldroughty, were acquired by the Duff family.

In the latter part of last century, the farm of Aldroughty was tenanted by Alexander Donaldson, the eldest son of William Donaldson, at Morriston. He married a sister of the late John Lawson, at Oldmills, and had three sons and a daughter, all dead long since. In the present century it has been occupied by William Murdoch, who had been in Calcutta. He left it in the year 1829. It was then tenanted by George Taylor, who erected the present handsome house, at a very considerable expense; planted trees and shrubberies, and laid off a fine early garden, of excellent soil, sloping pleasantly to the river; of which we have many agreeable recollections in bygone days. Taylor gave up the farm in 1841, and it was taken



by William Turnbull, who possessed it until 1864, when he died. Turnbull, although not a native of the parish, had spent the years of his boyhood and youth there, under the care of his relative, the Rev. Alexander Brown, minister of Spynie, and was much attached to it. He was educated for a surgeon, and went into the service of the East India Company. After serving his full time in India, he returned to his native land in vigorous health, but for some years had no settled home. He eventually took up his abode at Aldroughty, where he spent the last thirteen years of his life. He was an excellent scholar, a great reader, and kept himself well informed in the best literature and the new publications of the day. He was a lively, pleasant person, social in his habits, enjoyed the society of his friends, and was very hospitable; in short, a fine specimen of the East India gentleman of the old school, most of whom have now passed away. The farm is now tenanted by George Leslie, Sheriff-Clerk of Elginshire, who keeps it in great order and high condition, and has, at considerable expense and with great skill, completed the drainage.

We have stated before that the house is pleasantly situated on the banks of the Lossie, which, being dammed up by the mill of Scroggiemill, immediately adjoining Aldroughty, gives the river the appearance of an extensive lake. It is indeed a very beautiful sheet of water, and, having such a fine stretch of woodland all along the north side of it, no more pleasant spot can be found in the country. It has all the advantage of being near the town of Elgin, while, at the same time, it is quite secluded from it, and it forms a most romantic, retired residence.] (*Young's Parish of Spynie.*)

#### EPITAPHS IN THE CHURCHYARD OF SPYNIE.

The Church of Spynie was dedicated to the Holy Trinity, and was one of the most ancient Churches of the diocese. Here the Cathedral Church was first established by Bishop Brice, and in 1224 it was removed therefrom to Elgin, the reason assigned being "that the Cathedral, besides being exposed to danger from being situated in a very solitary place, that it happens that no valuable commodity is found there, whence it frequently happens that by the remote occasions of the clergy to buy neces-

saries for themselves, the attention to divine duties is greatly interrupted."

Of the Castle of Spynie, close to the old churchyard, and the Bishop's residence, we have spoken before.

In the loch now drained was an island called Midhagarty—"the Priests' Isle." Perhaps here was an ancient hermitage like St. Gernadius' at Ogston.

Henry, the Bishop's brother, was parson of Spynie in 1187. By the great charter of Bishop Brice, Spynie and Kintray were constituted the ninth prebend. In 1336, William was Canon. In the ancient Tax also the prebendary of Spynie was valued at 24 merks, with the vicarage. In 1488 John Stewart, prebendary, was one of the Council anent the change of the clock of the Cathedral.

The old churchyard of the parish is a pleasant, sunny spot; has a beautiful situation, lying on the southern slope of the hill, and commanding a fine view of the surrounding country. It is well enclosed with a substantial stone wall, and there are some thriving trees about it; but in the interior it is sadly neglected, and the ground is covered with nettles and other noxious weeds, with quantities of rubbish lying about, probably the remains of the old Parish Church, the last remnant of which only fell about twenty years ago.

A great many very old stones, too old to be read, and some very old set down, particularly those of the Leslie family. Their Family vault is a dark and very curious place, with a Cross over the door-way, evidently thus a pre-Reformation structure.

There were several Bishops of the Diocese interred here, and perhaps by digging about the site of the old Church, their monuments might still be found among the rubbish. The other monumental tablets are not of great age, nor of any very great interest; but it may be proper to notice a few of them, as throwing some light on parochial history. None of the old landed families of the parish appear to have had their burial-place here. The Leslies of Findrassie had for a long time their place of interment in the north aisle of St. Giles' Church in Elgin, and only used the churchyard of Spynie latterly. Their tomb is in a very neglected state; but the monumental tablets on the walls are still entire and legible; some of them on the floor are much covered with dust and earth, and illegible.



I. Hic dormiunt in Christo, Duæ Nobiles Robertus Leslie, Dominus de Findresy, ejusque conjunx Joneta Elphinstone, ille obiit 22nd Sept., anno 1588. Illa Æ. R. O.

Grip Fast—Disce mori—Causa causit.

Robertus Leslie, Comitis, qui filius olim,  
Rothusiæ fuerat simul, et suavissima conjunx  
Elphinstonii soboles herois, conduntur in antro,  
Hoc licet obscuro celebres pietate supersunt ;  
Hos quondam binos Hymenæus junxit in unum  
Corpus, et his vivis semper una voluntas,  
Unus amor, domus una fuit, nunc lumine lasso,  
Una duos iterum condit libitina sepultos.

“SUB SPE.”

II. Here lyes the bodie of Mistress Isabella Leslie, Ladye Burgie, who departed this life the 10th of Januarie, 1688.

NOTE.—She was the second wife of Robert Dunbar of Burgie, who died in 1690, and the second daughter of Robert Leslie, third laird of Findrassie, by his wife, Isabel Forbes, daughter of Abraham Forbes of Blackton.

III. Here lyes the bodie of Mistress Margaret Ayton, Lady Bishopmiln, who departed this lyfe the ninth day of September, 1714, aged 56 years.

NOTE.—She was wife of Alexander Dunbar of Bishopmill, and connected with the Leslies through her husband.

IV. Here lyes Abraham Leslie, Esquire of Findrassie, who was heir-male of George, 4th Earl of Rothes, his Lordship being father of Robert Leslie, the first of the family of Findrassie. He died at Findrassie House, 26th May, 1793; and to the memory of an affectionate husband this monument is erected by Mrs. Jean Leslie, his widow.

V. This stone is erected by Charles Leslie, in memory of his mother, Margaret Gordon, lawful eldest daughter of Charles Gordon of Glengerrack, and relict of John Leslie of Findrassie, who died 26th December, 1764, aged 67, a lady who was esteemed in life, diligent and active in her friendship, generous and disinterested, a tender and affectionate parent, benevolent and liberal to all, and at death a pattern of patience, fortitude, and resignation; and her children, Margaret, who died in the 7th year of her age; and Margaret, who died the 5th year of her age; and Jean, who died also in the 5th year of her age; James, who died in nonage. Also in memory of the above Charles Leslie, and his spouse, Margaret Macandrew.

VI. Erected by Charles Leslie, Esquire, in token of respect to the memory of Margaret Macandrew, his spouse, who died 11th July, 1796, aged 79, a woman of solid sense, simple manners, sincere piety, and virtuous conduct.

"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints."

VII. On a flat stone in the Findrassie tomb is the following inscription:—

Here lyes Mrs. Margaret Leslie, aunt of Sir John Leslie of Findrassie and Wardes, Baronet. She departed this life at Findrassie House, on the 13th of May, 1811, aged 86; and this monument is placed here to her respected memory by direction of her nephew.

VIII. A. M. B. G. L. M. 1651.

IX. Here lyes Wm. Navchtie and Jannet, lawful children to William Navchtie and Jean Stronach, in Byrnside. Said William died 10th May and Janet the last of July, 1679.

"And though after my skin worms destroy this body, in my flesh shall I see God."

Memento mori.

X. In an old tomb, at the east end of the churchyard, are the following inscriptions:—

Hic jacet in spem beatæ resurrectionis, vir vere pius et probus R.D.M. Samuel Tulloh, Spyniensis Ecclesiæ, vigilantissimus quondam pastor; qui placidissime in Christo, obiit 11 die Nov'bris, circiter hor. 12 merid, ann. Dom. MDCCVI., æt. LXXV., et officii ibid fideliter administrati XLVI. Nec non pia et pudica Elizabetha Gordon, unica ejusd. conjunx chariss. cum tribus eorund. filiabus virginibus Agneta, Marjoria, et Joanna.

In quorum omniam piam gratam memoriam, hocce monumentum ab ipso præstruct. memoralia ut e hac inscriptione denique exarand. ejusdem, et monument circumdat extruend, curavit Alexr. Tulloh, predict. Samuel et Elizab. filius unicus.

*Translation by Monteith.*—Here lies, in hopes of a blessed resurrection, a man, truly good and pious, Mr. Samuel Tulloch, lately most vigilant pastor at Spynie, who died most pleasantly in Christ, upon the 11th day of November, about 12 hours mid-day, in the year 1706; of his age 74, and of his office, happily administered, 46. As also the pious and chaste Elizabeth Gordon, his only and most beloved wife, with their three daughters, virgins, Agnes, Marjory, and Jean.

For all whose pious sake and memory, Alexander Tulloch, only son to the said Mr. Samuel and Elizabeth, caused this



monument, built before by himself, but afterward to be adorned with this memorial inscription, and this inclosure around the same to be erected.

XI. In spe beatæ resurrectionis, hic deposuit Reverendus vir, Presbyter pius, probus Magister Robertus Tulloh, qui ut pie vixit, decessit 13 Novembris anno 1720, ut et Anna Tulloh, uxor ejus charissima, quæ animam deo reddidit 20 Julii, 1715, et eorum filii Alexr. Tulloh, qui obiit Januarii 18, ann. 1731, et Thomas, qui obiit 24 Janii, anno 1715.

Sand Glass. Cross Bones. Death's Head.

XII. Here lyes Thomas Laing, mason in Quarriewood, . . . in 1712, and Elspet Innes, his spouse, and their children.

T. L. E. L.

XIII. Here lyes the body an honest man, called . . . and Baird, some . . . June, 1717, and . . . Laing, his spouse. . .

XIV. Here lyes the body of John M'Ombie, sometime farmer in Under . . . May, 1722, . . . his spouse . . . Cumming, . . .

XV. Here lies the body of John Jamieson, somtime in . . . and his spouse, Isabell Cock, who died the . . . of . . . 1725.

J. J. I. C.

XVI. Here lyes the body of Thomas Laing, who died December the 13, 1732, lawful son to Alex. Laing, sometime dwellar in Bormuchatie.

XVII. Here lyes the body of John . . . son to William Jamieson, in Quarrelwood, who died the 3rd of December, 1732, being the 13 year of his age.

XVIII. This is the burial-place of John Kintrea in Kintrea, who died the \* . . . and his spouse, Isabel Laing, who died the 1st of April, 1735, and their children, Christian, Jean, and Agnes, and Barbara, and Margaret, and Elspet.

XIX. Here lyes the body of Lenard Laing, who died March the 27, 17 2, . . . Janet, Margaret, Isobel Laings, children to James Laing and Jannet Russell, in Mirside (?), with mortality 1738. James Laing, who died 1798, aged 37 years.

XX. This stone is placed here by Andrew Coban, mason in Rosehaugh, in memory of his deceast father, John Coban, late farmer in Dykeside, who died March 11th, 1740, aged 63 years.

\* Never inserted.

XXI. This is burial-place of John . . . sometime farmer in Spynie, who died 1742, and Barbara Shaw, his spouse, who died 1754, and John and Jannet, ther children, who died in nonage. James, their son, sometime farmer in Spynie, who died 1769, and Barbara, their daughter, placed this stone.

XXII. David Bege and Agnes Ritchie, 1746.  
John Ritchie. Isobel Bath.

XXIII. This stone is placed in memory of James Paul, sometime farmer in Burnsford, and Janet Forsyth, his spouse, who died the 6th of March, 1750, aged 23 years.

XXIV. This stone is placed in memorie of William Gregor, sometime farmer in Rosehaugh, who died 5 . . . 1764, and his spouse, Marjorie. . . .

XXV. This stone is placed here by Beatrix Johnson in memory of John Harper, hir husband, sometime farier in Blackadit, who died the 12 March, 1799, aged 24 years.

XXVI. Sacred to the memory of the Rev. Alexander Brown, late minister of Spynie, who died on the 8th January, 1814, in the 53rd year of his age and 21st of his ministry. Also of Isabella Ord, his spouse, who died on the 11th of August, 1834, aged 70 years; and of Williamina, their infant daughter, who died on the 4th Decr., 1807, in the 3rd year of her age.

XXVII. To the memory of the Rev. George Machardy, minister of the gospel at New Spynie, who died 15th Septr., 1717, aged 42. This stone is erected by his affectionate widow, Margaret Smith.

XXVIII. Sacred to the memory of William Turnbull, Esq., late surgeon in the H.E.I. Company's service, who died at Aldroughy the 8th of April, 1864, aged 71.

The above tomb has upon it the following mottoes:—On the south side—"Death Pursueth;" on the west side—"Time Fleeth;" on the north side—"Conquer Eternity;" and on the east side—"Mynd Mortality," with the usual emblems, viz.:—Skeleton, Bell, Coffin, Sand Glass, Knife in Hand, Crown, Skull, and Cross Bones.

XXIX. On a tomb, with a handsome railing, about the centre of the churchyard, are the following inscriptions:—

(On a flat stone on the floor of the tomb)—1. Hic requiescunt reliquæ piæ castæque Katharinæ King, uxoris Mri. Gulielmi



Dougall, ecclesiæ Spyniensis Novæ pastoris, quæ obiit, 26 Septembris, anno Domini MDCCLIV., ætatis suæ LXV. Atque eorum filia Elizabetha, quæ obiit Martie XIII., MDCCXXVI., ætatis suæ mense XVI. Ipse autem obiit Octobris diæ XII., MDCLXVI., ætatis suæ anno LXXXIII.

XXX. On five monumental tablets, on the wall—:

Heu ! quanto minus est eum reliquis  
Versari, quam vestrum meminisse.

Within this tomb lie interred the remains of the late Reverend Mr. Robert Paterson, who was twenty-two years Minister of this parish, and died upon the 31st July, 1790, in the 56th year of his age. He was eminent for the faithful discharge of his pastoral office, and as a husband and father he was nearly as perfect as human nature will admit.

Here also lie the remains of Alexander Paterson, his third son, who survived his father only nine months, having died upon the 13th April, 1791, in the 17th year of his age, after having finished his academical studies. He was snatched from this transitory life to the inexpressible grief of all his relations.

XXXI. Here lie interred the body of Margaret Collie, spouse of Mr. Robert Paterson, Minister of New Spynie, and only child of Mr. William Collie, late Minister of Drainie, and Margaret Mackenzie, his spouse. She was a dutiful wife, an affectionate mother, an exemplary Christian. Her soul has been early removed from this earth to bear only felicity, and her body rests in hope of the promised resurrection. This monument is erected to her memory. She died July 23, 1782, in the 34th year of her age.

XXXII. Consecrated by the Revd. James Paterson, Minister of Birnie, to the memory of his brothers—Mr. William Paterson, who died 5th April, 1829, aged 59; and Doctor Robert Paterson, H.E.I.C.S., who, after twenty years' service in India, and when on the eve of returning to his native country, died at Calcutta on the — of December, 1829, in the 48th year of his age. Also sacred to the memory of the Revd. James Paterson, Minister of Birnie, whose benevolent life adorned the doctrines which he taught. Born 13th April, 1778; died 23rd February, 1840.

XXXIII. In this tomb lie interred the remains of the Revd. John Paterson, who was Minister of the Gospel at Auldearn, from 1794 till 1813, when he died in the 41st year of his age, an accomplished scholar and an eloquent preacher. His char-

acter was adorned by integrity, candour, and benevolence, still more than by those attainments.

Here also, in the grave of her parents, lies his sister, Helen, spouse of the Revd. Thomas Macfarlane of Edinkillie, who was endeared to her friends by every amiable virtue. She died on the 7th April, 1810, in the 34th year of her age.

This stone is placed by their brother, Dr. Robert Paterson, of the Bengal Medical Service, as a memorial of their virtues and of his affection.

XXXIV. The Rev. James Paterson, late Minister of Birnie, removed this stone from Drainie in 1839, for preservation, the old Church being ruinous :—

In this church lie interred Mr. Hugh Anderson, long Minister of this place, and Margaret Munro, his spouse ; as also Mr. William Collie, his immediate successor, and 27 years Minister, who died April 29, 1768, in the 73rd year of his age ; and Margaret Mackenzie, his spouse, who died April 27, 1773. Of these valuable persons, it may truly be said that they acted in their several stations as faithful ministers of the gospel, good members of society, and upright Christians.

This monument is erected to their memory by Margaret Collie, only child of the two last named, and spouse of Mr. Robert Paterson, minister of New Spynie.

XXXV. On a neat upright stone, near the centre of the churchyard, is inscribed :—

In memory of John M'Kimmie, Esquire, late Provost of Elgin ; born 4th October, 1789, died 26th February, 1856.

XXXVI. Near the above is a flat stone inscribed :—

This stone is placed here by Archibald Mellis, farmer in Kintrae, in memory of his spouse, Ann Falconer, who died 7th December, 1797, aged 44 years. In memory also of Jane Mellis, his eldest daughter, who died 8th August, 1791, aged 17 years ; also of Alexander and Janet Mellis, his children, who died in their nonage.

NOTE.—The above stone, I suppose, refers to the mother, brother, and two sisters of the late Mr. James Mellis, long tenant of the farm of Spynie. (R. Y.)

XXXVII. In a tomb, towards the east end of the Church, is a tablet to the memory of the late Reverend Alexander Simpson, Minister of the parish, and his wife, as follows :—



Sacred to the memory of Elizabeth Patullo, spouse of the Revd. Alexander Simpson, Minister of New Spynie, who died on the 10th April, 1848, aged 61 years. Also in memory of the Revd. Alexander Simpson, who departed this life on the 7th January, 1852, aged 65 years, in the 26th year of his ministry, having been ordained Minister of New Spynie, in the year 1826.

#### THE PARISH OF ALVES

Lieth to the west of Spynie, extending 3 miles from north to south, and as much from east to west.

The Church standeth near the centre, 4 miles west of Elgin, above 2 miles west of Spynie, and above 2 miles east of Kinloss. The south part of the parish stretcheth along the hill that divideth it from the glen of Pluscarden. Here the lands of Cleves, Monachtie, and Aslisk have been, for above 100 years past, a part of the estate of Brodie, formerly belonging (as they were churchlands) to the Earls of Moray, since the reformation of religion.

In the middle of the parish, to the east, are Newton and Ardgaidh, once a part of the estate of Duffus, now the property, the first of the Earl Fife, and the other of the Duke of Gordon.

Next westward is Alves, pertaining to the Earl of Moray, and a part of that ancient estate. Those parts of this parish that now belong to the Earl of Moray, have so long been the property of that noble family, in all the revolutions of it, that, I am told, about 40 years ago, a tenant gave to Mr. Russel late factor, a discharge of rent granted

by Thomas Randolph, Earl of Moray, to that tenant's ancestor in that land. A remarkable evidence this of the benevolence and goodness of that family, in continuing the farmers in their tenements from one generation to another for above 400 years.

Close by the Church is Kirktown, the seat of Harry Spens, D.D., and of his family for several generations. West from which is Ernside, which had been successively the heritage of the Cummines and MacKenzies for some centuries, and now is the property of Mr. Spens of Kirktown. In the north part of the parish, near the coast, is Coltfeld, formerly pertaining to William Brodie, grandson of the family of Brodie, upon whose death without issue, the lands reverted to that family, and now they are the property of James Brodie of Brodie, and of Watson of Westerton. Westward is Hemprigs, which, with the lands of Kilbuyack in the middle of the parish, was the heritage, for several generations, of a branch of the Dunbars. Kilbuyack was sold to Brodie of Lethen; and Sir William Dunbar of Hemprigs dying without male issue, and his daughter and heiress marrying a son of Sir James Sutherland's, the honour of Baronet, obtained on the 10th of April, 1700, came to his brother Sir Robert, father of Sir Patrick of Bowermaden, who died without male issue, and the lands of Hemprigs were purchased by William Dawson, Provost of



Forres, and with his two daughters co-heiresses came to Alexander Tulloch of Tanachie, and Alexander Brodie of Windyhills. Windyhills, in the west end of the parish, was long the heritage of the Dunbars. From them they were purchased by Francis Brodie (son of John, a natural son of David of Brodie), whose grandson John, who died a captain at Carthagen in 1741, having no issue, disposed his lands to Major George Brodie, son to Milntown; by whose death, in 1748, they came to his brother Alexander Brodie of Windyhills, the fourth in descent from David Laird of Brodie, who is now Baron of Windyhills and Hemprigs.

#### ALVES.

[*Situation, Soil, Climate.*—The parish of Alves, skirting along the western sides of Duffus and Spynie, comprehends the whole breadth of the champaign of Moray, from the firth to the bottom of the mountain, which in this quarter, ranging along the north side of the vale of Pluscarden, divides it from that limb of the parish of Elgin. It is one peculiarity of this parish, that although it has no stream naturally sufficient to turn a common corn-mill, yet the tracts of a great river remain manifestly evident, almost over all its length. It may be deemed perhaps a baseless speculation to presume, that the valleys which the rivers now occupy were not miraculously formed at the creation, for the reception of their waters, but have been gradually hollowed out by the natural action of their respective streams. It requires an exertion of the imagination to conceive the whole country without valleys, uniformly elevated to the level of the lower hills, and, instead of the great rivers, numberless small streams only, meeting into one almost by accidental congress, in the trackless waste of unconsolidated, bare, oozy mud, when God said at the first, "Let the waters under the heaven

be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear."

Although this might be in general presumed to have been the case, its application in any one particular instance may still be difficult. It requires no common exertion of the mind, even in idea, to represent this country before the excavation of the Moray Firth, when the highest lands of Birnie were continuously conjoined with the Sutherland hills, and no sea intervened between Duncan's bay and Peterhead; but that the river Varrar, receiving the waters which now constitute the Ness, Nairn, and Findhorn, in its course, meeting with the Spey also from the south, and the Conan from the north, boiling in rapid eddies around the Knock of Alves, rolled in one vast volume along the side of the hills of Enzie and Cullen, and discharged an immense cataract of extremely turbid water far eastward in the German ocean. But having conceived this idea, it will not be difficult to suppose, that the river of Findhorn, at a period much less remote, might have winded among the dales of Alves, through the lake of Spynie into the sea. Besides the evident vestiges of its tract which remain, its memory is still distinctly preserved in the name of the old Castle of Ernside, which in those days decorated its banks; it being well known, that the Erne is the proper appellation of the river; while the farm upon the lake of Inchstellie preserves also, by its name, the memory of its once peninsular situation: and it could never have been embosomed by any other river.

The parish is nearly a square of 5 miles, presenting a surface considerably diversified by sloping, and by level plains and gently-swelling eminences. It is far from being so uniformly plain as that of Drainy or Duffus, although a great proportion of its surface is counted level land. The soil is distinguished for its fertility, being a deep fat loam incumbent on clay, in a very few places only of a lighter quality: it produces crops of oats, valued in particular for their slow and late ripening, being found, upon the warmer sandy soils of the neighbouring parishes, to increase the luxuriance of the stem and the weight of the grain.

*State of Property.*—George Forteath, Esq., has built a spacious and splendid house upon his property of New-



town, where he has also formed an elegant garden, and made a considerable extent of plantation. The valued rent around this family seat extends to £165 10s. Scots. Peter Rose Watson, of Westerton, Esq., prefers the warm castled accommodations of his ancestors at Coltfeld, to the airy painted halls of modern fashion. The valued rent of his domains in this parish extends to £768 17s. 2d. Scots. William Brodie, of Miltown, Esq., has his family-seat under the north side of a green serrated mount; its exterior appearance, though not modern, indicating neat internal accommodation. His valued rent of Hempriggs and Windyhill amounts to £818 15s. 4d.

The lands of Ardgay, Monaughty, and Asleesk, appertaining to the Earl of Fife, are valued at £1575 15s. 2d. Alves and Inchstellie, the property of the Earl of Moray, are valued at £1336 2s. 10d. Kirktown Alves, and Erneside, the property of Spence Monro, Esq., are valued at £426 9s. 8d. The lands of Kilbuyack, at £380 7s., belongs to Miss Brodie of Lethin: making the valuation of the parish equal to £5462 17s. 2d. Scots. The real rent of the parish may be estimated about £3000 sterling. The farms in general are of respectable extent, there being few under 30, and several above 100 acres. The mean rent of the land is about £1 5s. the acre.

*State Ecclesiastical.*—The stipend is £46 13s. 4d. sterling, 96 bolls of bear, and 16 of meal; the allowance for the communion being included. The right of patronage appertains to the Earl of Moray. The school-salary is 10 bolls of bear, and £2 15s. 6d. sterling; and by the Act of Parliament which confers the emoluments of the office of session-clerk upon the parochial schoolmaster, he has the fee of £1 12s. and the customary perquisites, with the usual fees for teaching.

In the year 1715 George Duncan, Esq., merchant in Inverness, bequeathed £166 12s. 6d. sterling, for the education of 6 boys, from the sixth to the tenth year of their age, who are to be presented by the session. The poor, who are not numerous, are comfortably supported by the charity of the congregation, in the conclusion of their public worship, the dues for the use of the pall, and some charitable donations, among which is the sum of £30 sterling, bequeathed by Mr. Watt, who had transferred his ministrations from this parish to Forres. The mem-

bers of the National Church are 1030, about 50 Seceders, and 30 Episcopalians.

*Miscellaneous Information.*—The people are industrious, sober, and regular in their attendance on the public institutions of religion, and more than equal to their neighbours in knowledge and information.

The conical hill of the Knock of Alves terminates a low ridge on the southern quarter of the parish. It is separated from the ridge that ranges through the parish of Spynie only by a narrow gap. In both are inexhaustible quarries of free-stone, equally fit for mill-stones and for building.

In the western end of the parish, there is a large circular pile of stone: it has never been examined: no name or circumstance concerning it is known. Some Danish axes of uncommon form have been found in a tract of peat morass in the vicinity of Erneside.] (*Survey of the Province of Moray.*)

[The only relic of feudal times is the *Castle of Asleisk*, on the Earl of Fife's property.] (Ed.)

#### EPITAPHS IN THE CHURCHYARD OF ALVES.

[By the great charter of Bishop Brice, whereby he established the use of Lincoln in the diocese, Alves, along with Llanbryde, are granted and erected into a prebendary to be the seat of the Precentor. This was about 1208. Disputes arose between the Precentor and Succentor in regard to the boundaries of the parish, which was determined by a mutual reference in 1328. The name of the Precentor at this time was Roger de Inverniss.

In 1567 James Spence, vicar of Alves, witnesses a feu charter by James Thorntoun, the last Precentor of Moray of the glebe of the parish.

In 1565 John Watsons, minister of Alves, along with John Robison, minister of Urquhart, are threatened with the censure of the Church for leaving their Churches, and in 1567 we have Patrick Balfour, minister. The old Church, long demolished, contained monuments of antiquity, though some are now lost; fragments of two, which seemed to have formed part of the floor, yet remain.

I . . . Vir. Valterus. troupe. portion. . . alter illos conjugis  
. . . 25th Die Decembris anno Domini 1598. . .



II. Here lyes ane honorable man John Dassol. . . .

III. Under this stone lye the bodies of James Russel, farmer, sometime in Mortown, who died the 6th of May, 1691, and also James Russel, farmer, sometime in Mortown, his cousin, who died October, 1731, and Jean Kellie, his spouse, who died March, 1733, and James Russel, their son, farmer sometime in Easter Alves, who died May 10, 1742, and Jean Anderson, his spouse, who died August, 1717.

IV. Here on part of the wall of the old Church is the tombstone of Beivald Innes, who was ejected after the Revolution. He was minister from 1677, and died 1722.

It is in Latin, on a curious sort of red stone. From its difficulty to decipher, I have not set it down here.

V. . . . John. Laing. sometime . . . who. died. January. 13. 1720. . . . Laing. who. died. . . . the. 6. 1730. and. his. spouse. Margaret. Petrie. died. October. 14. 17 . . .

VI. Here lyes the body of John Anderson, sometime indueller in East Grange, who died the 23 of December, 1723, and Isobel Cumming, his spouse, who died the 10 of December, 1727, and Margaret Thane, spouse to John Anderson, in East Grange, she died the 9 of December, 1734. John Anderson, their son, placed this stone in memory of his parents and his beloved spouse.

VII. Here lyes the body of James Williamson, sometime farmer in Mostown, who died Nov., 1731, and his spouse, Elspet Lyn, who died July, 1731, and their daughter, Isobel, who died in her nonage.

VIII. Here is laid till the coming of Christ the bodies of Wm. and Alex. Forsyth, sometime induellers in Mount Auchry, and George Key, who lived in Coltfeld, and died 17 Feb., 1742, and his spouse, Barbara Mill, who died 12th November, 1752. Interred here is the body of John Key, and his wife, Margy. Forsyth, sometime duellers in Coltfeld, and their son, William Key, farmer in Duffus, who died\* . . . and his wife, Emily Sutherland, who died Mar. 1808.

IX. Here ly the bodys of Alex. Funister, late farmer in the Ries, who died 26 of July, 1767, and his spouse, Ann Russ, who died 16 July, 1745, and their son, William Funister, died 22 July, 1779.

X. This stone is placed here in the burying-place of Wm. Leim, farmer in Coltfeld, by Janet Chrystal, in memory of

\* Never inserted.

John Chrystal, her brother, who died October 16, 1759, aged 22 years.

XI. Mrs. Isa M'Lair, wife to the Rev. Mr. William Smith, minister at Alves, lies buried here. Here lies interred the body of the Rev. Mr. William Smith, late minister of Alves, who died 26th Jany., 1792, aged 46 years.

XII. This stone is erected by Pitir Ross, mason at Burghhead, in memory of his parents, Hugh Ross, who lived in Alves, who died April the 6, 1780, aged 69 years, and his spouse, Jean Davidson, who died\* . . .

XIII. Hear lys the body of Thomas Cobban, sometime residenter in Monauchry, who died the 18 May, 1786, aged 98 years, and his spouse, Margt. Young, who died 7 Nov., 1801, aged 76 years.] (*Rev. J. B. Craven's Epitaphs.*)

#### THE PARISH OF KINLOSS.

That is, the head of the Loch or Bay, from the burgh of Findhorn, runneth within land a mile and a half, and near a mile in breadth. Here the river Erne emptieth into the firth. It riseth in the hills, betwixt Badenoch and Stratherick, and watering Strathern and the Streins from south west to north east, at Doulasie, in the parish of Ardcloch (a bridge of two arches was built in the year 1754), thence it runneth north, and after a course of more than 30 miles, enters into the bay of Kinloss. The parish of Kinloss lieth on the east side of the bay.

The Church standeth near the head of the bay, about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles west from Alves,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles north of Forres, and near 3 miles north of Rafford. At the mouth of the bay is Findhorn, or Inverern, a

\* Never inserted.



burgh of barony. The bar at the mouth of the river allows no ships of burden to enter the bay, yet a good trade is carried on by small merchant ships and fishing boats. It is the sea-port of the town of Forres; and about 60 years ago, the sea cut off from the land, and covered the town, now called Old Findhorn. The present town, with the barony of Muirtown, lying south on the bay, was the property of Hugh Rose of Kilravock, who, in 1766, sold the barony of Muirton to Colonel Hector Munro of Navarre. In 1656 it came to Sir Robert Innes of Innes, who disposed it to Sir James Calder. Sir James was created a baronet of Nova Scotia, by Patent dated the 5th of November, 1686, and was son of Sir Thomas Calder of Sheriffmilk, of the Calders of Assuanly. About the year 1710, Sir James disposed his estate, with the burden of the debts, to Hugh Rose of Kilravock, James Sutherland of Kinsterie, William Brodie of Coltfeld, and Alexander Dunbar of Moy, and they disposed with absolute warrandice to Kilravock. The value of the estate fell short of the debts, and the disponees bore the burden. Kinloss gave title to Edward Bruce (of the family of Clackmannan), created Lord Kinloss 8th July, 1604, and his son Thomas, Earl of Elgin, 19th June, 1633. From this last, Alexander Brodie, the first of Lethen, purchased the Abbey lands in Kinloss, and the superiorities of such lands elsewhere, and they

are now the property of the eldest daughter of the late Alexander.

The south end of the parish was Abbey land, now the property of Dunbar of Grange, except the Struthers sold to Colonel William Grant of Ballendallach, about 1730. On the bay of Kinloss, Lethen has a salmon fishing.

#### KINLOSS.

[*Situation, Soil, Climate.*—The parish of Kinloss lies on the western side of Alves, and may be regarded as occupying the whole breadth of the champaign; although a corner of Alves is protruded for a little way along the bottom of the mountain, and in this quarter the mountain side itself, almost wholly cultivated, appertains to the parish of Rafford. Being only formed into a separate parish in the year 1657, the name of the Abbey, situated at the head of the bay of Findern, became readily that of the parish. It is a flat country, almost a square of 4 miles. In some places the soil is light sand; in others, rich deep clay and fertile loam; an incoherent peat earth is the surface soil of many hollow lying fields: but the whole, when properly cultivated, produces luxuriant crops of every kind of grain. Most of the springs have some mineral taste, and the water is, in general, bad. The air is sharp and dry: supposed to generate rheumatism and cutaneous distempers among the people, who are obliged to support its most unfavourable influences.

[*State of Property.*—The parish appertains to four proprietors. General Sir Hector Munro of Novar has the barony of Muirtown, valued in the county Cess-Book at £1859 14s. 8d. Scots. Miss Brodie of Lethin has Kinloss and East Grange, at £1091 1s. 4d. General James Grant of Balnadalloch has Struthers, Newtown, and Winderlaw, at £475 5s. 4d.; and the remainder of the parish is the property of Lewis Dunbar, Esq., of Grange, at £297 17s. 7d., making the whole valued rent equal to £3723 18s. 11d. Scots. The greater farms vary from about 100 to 130 acres, while some of the least are



only from 5 to 6. The average rent by the acre is from 18s. to £1 4s., though there are some which let at £2 2s., and a small part has risen to the rate even of £3 the acre. The whole number of the farms amount to 40.

The village of Findhorn, on the estate of Muirtown, at the influx of the river Findern, properly the Erne, into the Firth, may be considered as the Port of the town of Forres, and partly of Elgin also.

Four vessels, from 90 to 130 tons burthen, are employed in the London trade to this Port, and to those of Cromarty and Inverness conjoined; one after another generally arriving between every third and fifth week, and completing five or six voyages in the year. An inconsiderable quantity of dyed threads, manufactured in the village; a proportion of the grain of the country; and the salmon of the rivers of Nairn and Findern, with a small quantity from the upper fisheries of the Spey, comprise the goods sent to London. The salmon is sent in vessels appropriated for that article, put on board in the offing, and reach market commonly between the 5th and 9th day. From 2500 to 4000 kits, bringing from 16s. to £1 10s. the kit in London, comprehend the yearly quantity.

The articles brought back from London are sugar, tea, hops, porter, and cheese, silk, woollen, and cotton cloths, hats, ribbons, and buttons, hardware, household furniture, tanned leather, and grass seeds.

Three vessels, from 70 to 90 tons burthen, are employed in the trade from Leith, and the other ports in the Firth of Forth, to the same places, completing their voyages nearly in the same time. The only article carried out is grain, generally about 3000 bolls in the year, in cargoes of 300 or 400 bolls: in some years, 7000 or 8000 have been shipped: but the failure of the crop 1781, from an excessive drought, and a shake by a storm of wind, required an importation of 2000 bolls; while the crop of 1782 required a supply of no less than 8000 bolls from foreign Ports.

The goods brought from Leith yearly consist of a considerable quantity of tanned leather, soap, tallow, and grass seeds, foreign bar iron, and manufactured iron from Carron, farm utensils, and furniture, bottles, window and crystal glass, English and Scots stoneware, English hardware, and the manufactures of the looms of England,

Glasgow, and Paisley. Wines, imported by the merchants of Forres and Inverness from the places of their growth to Leith, make a part of the freights of these vessels, there being now seldom any wine imported directly here. Small quantities of spruce or black beer made at Dantzick are also forwarded from Leith. The ships employed in freighting the corn bring in yearly about 100 tons of Scots coal, and about 6 times as much from Sunderland, avoiding Newcastle on account of the duty paid to the Duke of Richmond on coals shipped there. With the coal, there is occasionally a small quantity of lime brought for manure, and about 130 tons of salt from the different saltworks of the Firth. Many passengers sail in these vessels both to and from London and Leith.

Two vessels are generally employed in bringing flax, tow, foreign bar iron, hard and soft soap, ropes and dressed hemp from Aberdeen. The flax is dressed, and only sent down by the manufacturers of that city to be spun, about Elgin, Forres, and Nairn, which it is supposed will amount to more than £2000 sterling yearly, for spinning the yarn returned from this Port. These vessels generally complete their voyage in the course of every six weeks, and occasionally carry back small quantities of flour and a few other articles.

Small quantities of yarn, manufactured from home-grown flax, are sent also by Leith for the Glasgow looms; and small quantities of butter by private orders for particular families. The pier is commodious, but rather too limited; yet the harbour is capacious and safe: there was always sufficient depth of water on the bar, and scarcely any vessel was ever damaged in getting over it. Of late, the channel has been altered even for the better, and vessels of almost 300 tons can easily get to the pier at stream tides. The Act of Parliament for building it was obtained by Sir Hector Munro in 1778. The duties of anchorage which it allows are, for every vessel under 6 tons, 3d.—between 6 and 15 tons, 6d.—from 15 to 30 tons, 1s.—from 30 to 50 tons, 2s.—from 50 to 75 tons, 3s.—from 75 to 100 tons, 4s.—from 100 to 150 tons, 5s.—from 150 to 200 tons, 6s.—from 200 to 300 tons, 7s.—and for 300 tons, and all above that, 8s. The duties on goods shipped and landed vary with the different commodities.



For the boll of grain, salt, barrel of English coal, 100 whole-barrel, or 150 half-barrel hoops,  $\frac{1}{2}$ d.—for each barrel of goods imported in barrels, for each gross of quart bottles, and for each parcel, 1d.—for the 100 bolls of lime, 1s. 6d.—for the 1000 slates or tiles, 6d.—for each 40 feet of timber in logs, 4d.—and for all coarse goods not particularly rated, in the proportion of £2 for each £100 of their value.

The fees exacted by the Custom-house are equal to three times these in the Port of Leith on foreign cargoes. On goods carried coast-ways, 2s. are demanded from every merchant for the value of from £20 to £30 sterling—1s. 6d. to the comptroller and collector, and 6d. to the port officer—deemed so exorbitant, that the payment has of late been refused, and, by steady unanimity among the merchants, redress no doubt will be obtained.

About 30 years ago, there were seven or eight fishing boats belonging to Findhorn, constantly employed. There are at present but 4: a fifth is occasionally rigged out in winter. There are some fine beds of mussels in this harbour: 100 boats, from 3 to 7 tons, have been in some years freighted for bait to the fish-towns southward on the Firth, as far as Fraserburgh, besides the home consumpt, both for the fishers and the market. Oysters also, about 20 years ago, were planted by Sir Hector Monro; but the scalp having never been dragged, their fate is wholly unknown.

Of late some cargoes of fir timber and deals have been shipped for the eastern quarter of the Firth; and as the plantations in the country advance, this branch of traffic will probably be enlarged.

*State Ecclesiastical.*—While the Abbey of Kinloss subsisted, this parish appertained to that of Alves and Rafford. In the year 1652, William Campbell, minister of Alves, commissioner from the Presbytery of Elgin to the brethren of Forres, represented, that “the chapter-house of the Abbey of Kinloss hath been, since the Reformation, a place for preaching the word, celebrating the sacraments and marriage; and by a condescendence between Alexander Brodie of Lethin, and the English garrison at Inverness, the fabric of the abbey is taken down for building their citadel, save the place of worship; and those who have the charge for to transport the stone, have it in command to take that also down: therefore the

brethren at Elgin earnestly desire, that the presbytery lay to heart, what the sequel will be, seeing, by the unanimous consent of the whole heritors of the adjacent lands, and of all the members of the Presbyteries of Elgin and Forres, it is agreed that there shall be a church and particular parish erected for Kinloss and the people thereabout, who are now almost without the means of the gospel."

On the consequent application of the Presbytery, Mr. Brodie declared, "it was against his will that these stones were taken away." An agreement was however made, that Sir John M'Kenzie of Tarbet, the proprietor of Muirtown, should give up his claim on "George's Yard," a part of the precinct of the Abbey; and that the Presbytery, who claimed the whole precinct, should renounce all pretence to any part thereof, as lawfully redeemed by Lethin, who, having acquired the Abbey lands from Lord Kinloss, engaged on his part to give a sufficient glebe, and station for a manse, off his lands of Kinloss, and also to build the manse and church by the money he had received for the stone of the Abbey. At a subsequent meeting of the Presbytery, the whole proprietors agreed on their particular proportions of a stipend of £22 5s. and 3 chalders of bear, and the expense of the Communion, from the tithes of their respective lands within the new parish. The proprietors also of the lands remaining in the parish of Alves, agreed to make up the proportion of £5 sterling, and 10 bolls, formerly paid to the minister of Alves, from the lands taken off that parish; of which Sir Robert Innes, younger of Innes, who in the interval had acquired the barony of Muirtown, "out of his free donation and gift, endows £2 10s. by the year, for the payment whereof he doth oblige himself and his heirs, to employ £41 13s. 4d. in the hands of responsal debtors, by the advice of the Presbytery of Elgin, and the minister of Alves; and to pay £2 10s. yearly, so long as it remains in his own or foresaid's hands." The other £2 10s. and the 10 bolls, were apportioned on the lands within the parish of Alves. The minister of Rafford was compensated by the annexation of the parish of Altyr, which had been incommodiously united to Dollas, the stipend of which was supplied, by conjoining the lands of Killess from the parish of Elgin.

It was not, however, till the year 1659, that the settle-



ment of James Urquhart, the first minister of Kinloss, took place; who in a few months thereafter attended a meeting of the Scots Parliament at Edinburgh, with Sir Robert Innes, and Mr. Fullerton, the minister of Rafford, and obtained the National ratification of this whole procedure by the Act March 20, 1661, "which ratifies and confirms the Act and ordinance of the Presbyteries of Elgin and Forres, with consent of all concerned, of date the 6th of May, 1657;" but appointing the stipend of Kinloss to be £20 sterling, and 4 chalders of bear, including the expense of the Communion. Upon the death of the usurper in the succeeding year, and the restoration of Charles II., the Presbyterian Church of Scotland was completely overturned and abrogated, and the Prelatic constitution arbitrarily and violently re-imposed. But that there hath been an ecclesiastical establishment in every civilized state, Gentile, Jew, or Christian, the historical records of all ages show; and it may be from the Scriptures inferred, that this is by the Deity required of all who have been favoured by the light of Revelation. Although it may not be obvious, that the Presbyterian establishment is particularly by the Scriptures enjoined, yet the experience of more than 100 years hath fully concurred to show, that it is by much the best for a people who in general are far from opulent. Instruction in the duties of morality and religion is not lost amidst the pomp and splendour of external worship: and while the clergy are not raised above the requisite intercourse with the lowest of the people by power and dignity, and temporal wealth, their learning, manners, and rank in society associating them with the superior orders of the State, form the link by which the highest are connected with the lowest, affording thereby the mutual communication of those advantages for which each of those classes is dependent on the other. Accordingly, there is no state where the common people are of more decent manners, better informed, and more attentive to the duties of morality and the ordinances of religion.

These advantages, however, are the purchase of much of the blood, and of almost the whole of the treasure, of our ancestors, and were only secured by many hard contentions with most crafty and desperate efforts of unconstitutional power, continued by the most unrelenting

persecution of every rank and of every sex for almost half a century. At the conclusion of such a distressful season, the State ecclesiastical could not at once assume that comely order to which it has now attained; and for the first 12 years of the present Presbyterian establishment, the number was so few of faithful ministers, that, except parochial sessions, the Presbytery of Moray was the only ecclesiastical jurisdiction in the Province. In a meeting of which at Forres in June 1702, they were then first able to make up three Presbyteries, one comprehending those of Inverness, Nairn, and Forres; another Elgin, Aberlaur, and Abernethie; and that of Strathbogie nearly as it has since remained, and in consequence of this the Synod for the first time met in the month of October thereafter.

In 1708 the Presbytery of Forres, which is now to be considered, was first established, which until the year 1733 comprehended also the parishes of Aulderm, Nairn, and Ardelach.

The stipend of Kinloss, by decret 1789, is £46 8s. 3d.—56 bolls of bear, and 40 bolls of oatmeal. The right of patronage is shared between the Earl of Moray and Miss Brodie of Lethin. The salary of the School is £2 16s. 4d., and 7 bolls and 3 pecks of bear, and £2 as the fee of the session-clerk, with the customary dues of from 40 to 60 scholars. The number of poor on the parish roll in the year 1776 was 34; the supply raised for their provision was £6 11s. 6d. In the year 1786 they had increased to 57, and the fund has also risen to £17 10s. 2d. In 1796 the number had fallen down nearly to the first statement, being only 36, and the fund only decreased to £12 9s. It is wholly formed by the contributions of the people at their meetings for social worship in the Church, the hire they pay for the pall, and such fines as the Session can exact for immoralities. The members of the National Church amount to 1023: there are about 9 Seceders of the Antiburgher sect, and 2 of the Nonjuror Episcopalian profession.

*Miscellaneous Information.*—A slip, or ridge of ground along the shore on the western side of the river Erne, appertains to this parish and to the estate of Muirtown. About 100 years ago, the river, similar to what has been mentioned of the ancient termination of the Spey, and of



the present influx of the Lossy, flowed westward nearly 6 miles, converging with the shore. When the river gained its present direct course, this ground by the water stagnate in its former bed became an island, for many years affording secure pasturage for sheep and cattle; but by the drifting of the sand, this ancient channel is now filled up, so as to be an island only during high water, divested of much of its accommodation, and the pasturage greatly injured by the overspreading sand.

Prior to the year 1701, the town of Findhorn, regularly built, stood upon a pleasant plain, a mile north-west from its present situation, and now the bottom of the sea. The irruption, though completed in one night, and by one tide, had long been apprehended, and the inhabitants had gradually withdrawn. It is probable, that the drifting sand accumulated by the united power of wind and tide, dammed back the river, forcing open its present course, and overwhelming the village. At that time, a level moor stretched in a right line along the shore from Findhorn to Burghead, for the distance only of 5 miles. The encroachments of the sea in a semi-circular bay has made the distance now by land a little more than 10. The inhabitants of Findhorn were in a great measure supplied with fuel from this moor, the cutting up of which might have been the cause of the encroachment. On this moor, near the shore, stood a conical Mount, evidently artificial, about 40 fathoms high: it was called the *Douffhillock*, and afforded a view of the Firth and the whole country around. An old man, still alive, has gathered berries among the heath around its base. Many roots and trunks of oak and fir trees were then found in the moor, and a few are still dug in the moss of Hatton, confirming the truth of the tradition, that a forest once occupied what is now the bottom of the sea, and the downs between Findhorn and Duffus. The sand-banks oppose a feeble barrier to the power of every storm from the north, by which they are themselves forced farther on the shore, and banks of peat-earth are thereby discovered 6 or 8 feet below the sand. Within the flood-mark of the Bay of Findhorn, where the estate of Muirtown borders with West Grange, in the year 1787, extensive beds of peat earth were discovered, deemed such a treasure at the first as to excite a law-suit, as on the records of the sheriff court, between

the landlord and his tenants, even for the duration of the current leases; but after the commencement of the litigation, it was found this fuel had such an offensive smell, and corrosive power on kitchen utensils of copper and iron, as to be absolutely improper for any domestic purpose. This peat was found at 2 or 3 feet under the sand, not in a continuous bed, but in detached banks, as if covered by sand when formerly used, in a period beyond the remembrance of the passing generation.

Within the Bay, near the course of the river, is the "yaar," probably the yard fishery, principally of salmon. It is an enclosure, formed of stakes wattled with twigs or brush-wood. At high water, the fish swim over the fence; but, heedless of the gradual reflux of the tide, their retreat cut off, they are left gasping on the sand. This fishery is supposed to have been the device of the brethren of the Abbey. On its dissolution, the "yaar" was acquired by the community of Forres, and was then placed a mile nearer to the town, and still pays 4s. 4d. of the stipend of that parish. The vestiges of three different "yaars" may be still traced on the sands. From 8 to 12 barrel of salmon used formerly to be the produce; and it was let at the rent of £6 in the year; but the proprietor's estate afforded wood for its repair, of which at present no vestige remains. The "yaar" therefore is not kept in very good repair, and it is supposed to be injudiciously placed. It has accordingly failed much in its returns, which probably will not be recovered, till the rising plantations afford materials at hand for its necessities. On some occasions, herrings, but rarely, have been found inclosed.

How far the industry and device of man, in conjunction with the ravage of the fish upon each other, and on their respective roes, may tend to diminish their numbers on the whole, seems as yet to be more apprehended than ascertained. A small premium for the destruction of the more voracious kinds upon the coasts of Britain might be perhaps not improperly conjoined with the prohibitory statutes respecting black-fish.] (*Survey of the Province of Moray.*)



Next southward is

THE PARISH OF FORRES,

*Far-uis*, i.e., near the water. The parish extendeth from the Bay of Kinloss southward upon the river 3 miles, and from the east to the river 2 miles. The town standeth 2 miles north-west of Rafford,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles south of Kinloss, and 2 miles east from Dyke. It is situated in a pure and wholesome air, on a rising ground, sloping to the south and north, and commandeth a charming view of the Firth and the adjacent country. It consists of one street from east to west of well built and convenient houses.

In the middle standeth the Tolbooth, adorned with a steeple of modern work and a clock.

Near the west end standeth the Church, and beyond it the Castle Hill, which, with some lands about it, has been the property of the Dunbars, Sheriffs of Moray, since about the year 1450, and belongs now to Sir James Grant of Grant.

In the parish to landward the House of Tanachie standeth at the head of the Bay, the seat of Alex. Tulloch of Tanachie, whose family have enjoyed these lands above 250 years. A part of the lands of Tanachie have lately been sold to Urquhart; and Loggie, in the south of the parish, formerly the property of Tulloch of Tanachie, now belongs to Sir James Grant of Grant, and is called Cothall. Here there are a neat house and valuable

improvements. Near to Tanachie is Bogtoun, the small heritage of a cadet of Tanachie's family. Close by Bogtoun is West Grange, a part of the estate of Dunbar of Grange. To the west of the town is Bennageth, a small feu belonging to Alexander Lesly; and west thereof is Mundole, which has often changed masters, and now pertaineth to Sir James Grant of Grant. Below Mundole, on the side of the river, is the *Grieship*, purchased by David Laird of Brodie from Sutherland of Duffus about the year 1620, and is now the property of the Laird of Brodie. It was anciently a part of the estate of Lauder of Quarrelwood, whose heiress brought it to Chisholm, and his heiress to Sutherland. A half mile south of the town is the House of Sanchar, the seat of Duncan Urquhart of Burdsyards. This is an ancient branch of the Urquharts of Cromarty. I find in an indenture between William Thane of Calder and Hutcheon Rose, Baron of Kilravock, dated at Forres 21 June, 1482; Alexander Urquhart of Burdsyards is a witness. The family is still in a flourishing way. West of Sanchar are the lands of Benneferry, Cnockomie, and some others belonging to the family of Moray.

[For "Sweno's Stone" see *Military History*.] (ED.)

#### FORRES.

[*Situation, Soil, Climate*.—The parish of Forres, southward of Kinloss, stretches across the plain, rather from



the Bay of Findern than from the sea, till it meets the parish of Rafford on the south; both occupying the breadth of the low land from that bay to the bottom of the mountain. The parish is nearly in the form of a triangle—its length from east to west about 3 miles, and its breadth from north to south nearly 6. The Royal Burgh, giving its name to the parish, is placed on a rising ground, nearly in its middle. The name denoting *upon or near to water*, and the appearance of the ground, give reason to suppose that the River Findern might have originally held its course nearer to the town, and a considerable stream from the southern mountain runs close by the houses on its northern side. The south and south-east parts of the parish are hilly, covered with short heath and furze, but by much the greater part is one continued rich, well-cultivated field. The climate is inferior to no part of Scotland; the air is serene, healthful, and dry. The town commands an extensive prospect of a fertile country, embellished by the seats of many neighbouring proprietors.

*State of Property.*—The parish is shared among nine proprietors, besides the lands belonging to the town, and some smaller proprietors holding of the burgh. The Earl of Moray has Knockowney, Flewis, and Belnaferry, amounting in the Cess-Book to £290 18s. 10d. The estate of Sanchar and Burdsyards, appertaining to George Grant, Esq., amounts to £1,030 7s. 2d. The lands of Grieshop, belonging to John Gordon of Edintore, Esq., are £432 15s. 4d. The estate of Belnageith, belonging to Alexander Leslie, Esq., is £225 3s. 4d. Alex. Penrose Cuming of Altyr and Gordonstown has Mundole and Cotehall, £126 9s. 6d. Alexander Urquhart, Esq., has Tannachy, £261 12s. 9d. Joseph Dunbar of Grange, Esq., has a valuation of £213 8s. 8d.; and John Brander of Pitgaveny, Esq., has Waterford, valued at £117 13s. 5d., in which, however, the valuation also of Cotehall seems to be included. The whole valued rent of the parish amounts to £2,954 6s. 6d. Scots.

The farms are not of very great extent, few or none exceeding 60 or 80 acres. In the neighbourhood of the town lands let from £2 10s. to £3 sterling the acre. These are principally farmed by horse-hirers, and are chiefly in grass; and by the high wages they get for the hire of

their horses, are enabled to pay this enormous price for land. In the country part of the parish the average rent will not exceed £1 10s. the acre.

Forres is a handsome, well-built town—the high street from east to west about one mile in length—near the middle is the town-house and jail, a pretty high square tower, and a kind of timber spire. It is not known when it was erected into a royal burgh. The charter granted by James IV., dated June 23, 1496, narrates—"That the ancient charters have been destroyed in the time of war, or by the violence of fire, and grants of new in free burgage with the lands formerly belonging to the community, particularly the lands called Griveship, Baillielands, Meikle Bog, with the King's Meadow, Lobranstown, with Crealties and Ramflat, and common pasturage in the Forest of Drumondside and Tulloch; with power annually to elect a Provost, Bailies, and other magistrates and officers necessary, and to constitute the Provost and Bailies Sheriffs within the burgh and its liberties, and discharge the Sheriff of the shire of Elgin and Forres, to exercise his office within the said burgh or its liberties; with power to have a cross, a weekly market, and an annual fair to continue for eight days, with all and sundry other privileges and immunities of a free burgh, &c."

The number of the Council is 17—Provost, Bailies, Dean of Guild, and Treasurer included. The old Council chooses the new, and the new Council chooses the magistrates, and puts them off, or continues them, as they see cause. The burgesses, inhabitants, or proprietors in the country, may be chosen into the Council, timely notice being given by the drum and other customary advertisements. The revenue is nearly £100 sterling a year, and with the towns of Nairn, Inverness, and Fortrose in the county of Ross, has a representative in the House of Commons.

*State Ecclesiastical.*—The yearly value of the living is 98 bolls of bear, 20 of meal, and £40 16s. 8d. sterling, with a glebe of 4 acres, and a manse and offices in town. The Earl of Moray is patron. The burying-ground is on the north side of the street, near the west end, where the Church also stands—a heavy building, without a steeple. It was built in 1775, and is 72 by 36 feet within walls, and may contain 1,800 people. The members of the



Established Church are about 2,987, from which there is only to be deducted a few Seceders, who are not increasing.

The provision for the poor arises chiefly from the charity of those who attend the Church. Mr. Alexander Watt, the last minister, left a donation to the poor of about £200 sterling. The whole, with the sum of £15, being the interest of money left under the direction of the Town Council, and divided among the poor within the town, amounts to about £55 sterling a year, and is distributed among 125 persons, many of whom are heads of families.

There is a Grammar School in the town, where Latin, Greek, French, and the various branches of the mathematics, are at present taught with great success, and a young gentleman may have board and education for £20 a year. To this the school for reading English, writing, and arithmetic, has been of late conjoined, under the care of the same master, assisted by an usher. The conjoined salary is equal to £35 sterling yearly, and the fees of generally more than 100 scholars, besides those girls who attend at a stated separate hour in the day.

There is likewise a boarding school for young ladies, where the various branches of needle-work, music, and other parts of female education are taught. The mistress has a salary from the town of £16 a year, and a young lady may have every requisite accommodation for £15 a year. Music is taught for 2 guineas a year, gum-flowers for 4 guineas, tambour for £1, and plain work for 10s. Particular attention is paid to the morals, and to impress the minds of the young people of both sexes with proper sentiments of honour and discretion; and from the abilities of the present teachers, and the attention paid by the Magistrates, and the healthy situation of the town, there is not anywhere, perhaps, a more eligible place for the education of youth. Besides these established schools there are private teachers both for girls and boys, to whom some small donations are also made by the Magistrates for their encouragement. In one the pianoforte, and some of the other branches of female accomplishment, are taught for half the dues of the public establishment.

*Miscellaneous Information.*—There are in Forres 60 merchants and shop keepers. The only manufactures carried on are for the supply of the town and its vicinity, except the spinning of linen yarn, which has for 20 years

back brought a considerable supply of money into the country. The merchants are in the use of buying the yarn and sending it to Glasgow, where there is a ready sale, unless the market be overstocked with Irish yarn, which only on account of its cheapness is at certain times preferred. But since the year 1784 this trade has been gradually declining, owing to the increase of the number of machines for spinning cotton, and many of those formerly employed in spinning yarn for sale now spin Dutch flax for the manufacturing companies of Aberdeen and Inverness. In the year 1784 one merchant sent 23,290 spindles to Glasgow, collected in Forres and in its vicinity, the other dealers in this article sent about 47,000, which, at the rate of 2s. for spinning, produced £7,092 sterling.

The River Findern and the brook at Forres are the only streams in the parish. The fish found in the River and Bay of Findern are salmon, trout, eels, and flounders; haddocks are got in the firth, and sold in the town and country around. The quantity of salmon exported from Forres, upon the average of the ten years from 1773 to 1783, was 300 barrels yearly, besides the home consumpt, not very considerable. It is sold at 4d. the lb.

The River Findern is navigable for boats no farther than the tide flows. The distance from the town to the harbour does not exceed three miles, and the tide flows more than half that distance, and the low ground at the bottom of the eminence on which the town stands does not exceed the level of half tide by 14 feet, and that depth of canal would carry vessels to the town, and the canal would be kept clear by the brook. There is hardly any place, therefore, where there is more encouragement to make a canal, did the commerce of the town require it. The flux of the tide covers a triangular piece of ground, the Bay of Findern, wholly dry at low water, except the channel of the river, and a little space at the inlet; it contains about one thousand acres of a stiff clay soil, distinguished by the epithet of carse ground, a part, however, being a fine compact sand, with light particles of earth deposited by the floods. All this might, at an expense inconsiderable compared with its value, be easily recovered from the sea, a bar of sand stretching across the mouth of the river would prevent the violence of any surge upon



the embankment which would be required. There is one quarry of limestone upon Mr. Cuming's estate, but being mixed with other matters, it has never been used in any considerable quantities.] (*Survey of Province of Moray.*)

## FORRES.

[This town must have been a place of some note at a very early period. It is, in all probability, the *Varris* of Ptolemy's chart. And Boethius, so early as the year 535, makes mention of it as a burgh having merchants, who, for some trifling cause, were put to death, and their goods confiscated to the King's use. *Far-ius* (near the water), is probably the Gaelic derivation of the name. During the 9th and 10th centuries it was frequently visited by the Scottish Kings. Donald, the son of Constantine, was slain at Forres. Malcolm frequently resided in the neighbourhood, and was killed in 959 at *Ulern*, which Shaw supposes is Aldern [others opine Blervie Castle]. King Duffus was murdered in the Castle of Forres by Donevald [Donald], the governor, about the year 966. His body being interred under the bridge of Kinloss.\* After the establishment of the bishoprick, however, Forres does not seem to have increased, or indeed kept up its consequence so much as Elgin, which then became the centre of the ecclesiastical establishments of the Province, and the resort of the country gentry. The consequence is, that we find fewer remains of antiquity, either domestic or ecclesiastical, about Forres than in the latter. It was the seat of the Archdean [Archdeacon], however, and had a Parsonage dedicated to St. Laurence. [The remains of this residence are at the north-west corner of Gordon Street, which was built on the site of the one burnt in May, 1390, along with St. Laurence's Church, by the Wolfe of Badenoch.] There was a chapel, also, [dedicated to St. Leonard] a mile south of the town [where the foundations yet remain] and one at Logie.

The ancient charters of the burgh having been destroyed by fire, a new one was granted by James IV. in the year 1496 [with all the privileges of a Royal Burgh].

The town is pleasantly situated on a fertile plain, with undulating hilly ground to the south, and a sloping valley, extending by a gentle declivity to the north, where the

\* Boethius, Buchanan.

River Findhorn, sweeping round from the south-west, forms an estuary with the sea. Findhorn, the sea-port of the burgh, lies on the north point of this estuary, 3 miles distant, and the ruins of Kinloss are situated on the margin of the winding bay.

The town consists of one long street, extending from east to west, with lanes or closes running off on each side. On the east is the Cluny Hill, a conspicuous object, with a tower on the summit.

In the centre of the town is the new jail, a very handsome structure recently erected. The old jail, which occupied the same position, was built about the year 1700, and 20 years afterwards, by the subscriptions of the spirited burgesses, four pyramids, and a central dome with a clock, were added.

The Church, at the western extremity of the main street, is a plain building [having a double belfry, containing two poor bells, good enough for such a meagre establishment. The former Church of St. Laurence was on this stance.]

Anderson's Institution,\* an educational establishment for the youth of the burgh, is a neat and commodious structure, erected within the last 20 years from a fund left by a native of the town.

*The Trafalgar Monument*, an octagonal tower of three storeys, and 66 feet in height, was built on the Cluny Hill by subscription in 1806-7, in memory of Lord Nelson's naval victory. It contains several apartments, where an anniversary dinner is held to commemorate the event which gave rise to its erection. [The first room has a recess containing a marble bust of Nelson. The other flats are empty. Outside on panels are carved—"In memory of Admiral Lord Nelson. Nile, 1st August, 1798; Copenhagen, 2nd April, 1801; Trafalgar, 21st August, 1805."] The view from the top of this [octagonal] tower embraces the richly wooded and fertile plains to the west, through which winds the River Findhorn, the undulating hills to the south, a large open country to the east, and the blue waters of the ocean flowing up on the north, bounded in

\* Jonathan Anderson disposed in 1814 to the Magistrates and Council of Forres his lands of Cowlairs, near Glasgow, for a Free Charity School for the parishes of Forres, Rafford, and Kinloss. (ED.)



the distance by the Sutherland and Ross-shire hills, and the two *Soutors* which guard the entrance to the Bay of Cromarty, forming a combination of rich and varied scenery, which few situations can rival.

*The Castle Hill* is a green mound at the western termination of the town, surmounted by a few dilapidated walls, the only remains of what must, at one period, have been a bold and stately Castle—a place of defence and safety, and frequently the abode of Royalty. It is said that after the foul murder of King Duffus within its walls, it was demolished. In the course of time, however, it must have been rebuilt. In 1346, Randolph, Earl of Moray, dates his charters from it. During some subsequent period, the Urquharts of Cromarty were appointed heritable keepers of it. In still later times it became the property of the Dunbars of Westfield [who for 300 years held the office of hereditary Sheriffs of Moray, and had the Castle as their official residence.] It passed into the possession of the Earl of Seafield [and is now the property of Sir Charles Roderick MacGregor, London.] Like the Castle on Lady Hill at Elgin, it was in all probability a strong square tower with battlements, and a moat surrounding it, and served as a place of defence and safety during those turbulent periods.

[The ruins which occupy the centre are no part of the old Castle, but are the abortive attempt of William Dawson, Provost of Forres, about 1712, to build a town-house, which never reached beyond the first storey. The apartments are arched and lighted with small square windows, which had been guarded by iron stanchions, which have been taken away; and although a coating of grass and mould protects the arches, they are rapidly yielding to decay. The foundations of the old Castle, which were of more extensive proportions than the stance of Dawson's Town-House, were exposed while the slopes on the north-west were being planted with trees some years ago.]

On the level space between the ruins and the western slope of the Castle Hill, stands an Obelisk of Peterhead granite, 65 feet high, erected by public subscription in 1857. The reason of its erection here is that the projectors, having been refused a suitable site in Dr. Thomson's native town of Cromarty, his friend, Sir C. R. MacGregor, who took a leading part in the subscription for the Monu-

ment, made offer of a site on the Castle Hill of Forres, which was accepted by the subscribers.

The western face of the die bears this inscription :—

To the memory of Assistant-Surgeon James Thomson, born at Cromarty on the 8th March, 1823, and deceased in the Crimea on the 5th of October, 1854. He was with the 54th Regiment at Malta in 1850, when the cholera broke out, and shortly proved fatal to all the surgeons of the corps, himself alone excepted. The skill, fortitude, and humanity displayed by him in arresting the progress of that disease gained for him the praise of the Commander-in-Chief. He was present with the same regiment at the Battle of Alma in 1854, and a few days afterwards, when the British were leaving the field, he volunteered to remain behind with 700 desperately wounded Russians. Isolated from his countrymen, endangered by the vicinity of large bodies of Cossacks ill supplied with food, and exposed to the risk of pestilence, he succeeded in restoring to health about 400 of the enemy, and embarking them for Odessa. He then died from the effects of excessive hardships and privation. This public monument is erected as a tribute of respect for the virtue of an officer whose life was useful, and whose death was glorious.

Opposite the gate by which access is got to the Castle Hill is Auchernack Cottage, belonging to the Misses Grant. Here formerly stood the humble dwelling of James Dick, the founder of "The Dick Bequest." He left his native parish in early life and went to America, where he accumulated a large fortune, and at his death in 1828 he bequeathed £140,000, by which the parochial schoolmasters in the counties of Aberdeen, Banff, and Moray each receive from £20 to £30 yearly. The Bequest is managed by the Society of Writers to the Signet, Edinburgh. Dick's father was a shoemaker and leather merchant, and a burgess and burgh-heritor, owning a close of houses and residing in the front one, which was an unpretending *but and a ben*, with open fire-ingle. Above the door was a freestone lintel, with the initials A.D., E.D., for Alexander Dick and Elizabeth Dick—the father and the mother—with the date 1742. The lintels and rybats of the doorway were, on the demolition of Dick's house, cared for by John Miller of the *Forres Gazette*, who had them built into the wall of the Clunyhill Cemetery, in his own family burying-ground, for preservation. Also in his printing-



office he has preserved the flag-stone on which the great educational benefactor's cradle was rocked—the only bit of pavement in the kitchen, conveniently embedded in the clay floor by the ingle-side.

Valetudinarians at the Clunyhill Hydropathic Establishment may be interested in the Suspension Bridge which crosses the Findhorn, built in 1831, at a cost of £10,000, from plans by Sir Samuel Brown, R.N.

*The Market Cross* is rather a striking attraction in the middle of High Street. It was erected in 1844 at a cost of £180, from designs by Thomas Mackenzie, Elgin.

East of the Cross is the *Town-House*, with tower and clock, having illuminated dial-plates. In the court-room is a painting, by Cranmer, of the Riding of the Marches by the Provost, Magistrates, and Town Council in 1840. Behind the bench is a stained-glass window, having St. Laurence standing on a gridiron, gifted by Smith of Colithie, near Huntly, a native of Forres. In the Council Chamber is a painting of the tournament held at St. John's Mead in the 14th century, also executed by Cranmer, presented by the Earl of Fife.

*The Agricultural Hall*, erected in 1867 at a cost of £1,700, and the *Mechanics' Institute*, having a library of 3,000 volumes, and a collection of local pictures, are worth seeing.

*The Hard Moor*, to the westward of Forres, which commences after crossing the Findhorn, is the traditional region where Macbeth met the witches; while he and Banquo journeyed from the Western Islands to meet King Duncan at the Castle of Forres. Such is the wonderful power of Shakespeare, that out of a few meagre and uncertain legends, he has rivetted the imagination of thousands to this locality. It is indeed a "hard moor" and "blasted heath" even at this present, and well befits the imaginary scene of such a supernatural meeting. A knoll on the south side of the railway, crowned with a group of dark old pines, is pointed out where the interview was held.

*Banquo*.—How far is't call'd to Forres? What are these so wither'd and so wild in their attire, that look not like th' inhabitants o' th' earth, and yet are on't? Live you, or are you ought that man may question? You seem to understand me, by each at once her choppy finger laying upon her skinny

lips. You should be women; and yet your beards forbid me to interpret that you are so.

*Macbeth.*—Speak, if you can; what are you?

*1st Witch.*—All hail, Macbeth! hail to thee, Thane of Glamis.

*2nd Witch.*—All hail, Macbeth! hail to thee, Thane of Cawdor.

*3rd Witch.*—All hail, Macbeth! that shall be King hereafter!

*The Witches' Stane*, on the roadside in a ditch to the east of the town, indicates where one of three witches that witched King Duffus was burned and buried. When the adjacent house of Bronte Place was being built, or as others give out, while the turnpike road was in progress, the workmen broke this Stone and had part of it built into the house, when the townspeople, discovering the vandalism, caused it to be clasped with iron, in which state it still remains. Other two Stones have long since disappeared.

At the old Toll Bar, the Cross formerly stood, where is the base or socket of the Little Cross of Forres.

About 1790, in levelling and paving the streets of Forres, there was found near the Cross, a good depth under the sand, a Medallion of a compound substance and chocolate colour, about  $2\frac{3}{4}$  inches diameter, and  $\frac{3}{8}$  of an inch in thickness. On the one side stood an elegant female figure, like an armed goddess, but rather in a civic Roman dress, having in her hand a javelin or lance, reversed, with its point touching the earth. She stood between two altars. On the one there seemed to be incense burning, and on the other a dish like a Roman *ferculum* or plate for food. On the back-ground of this side was an imitation of one or two distant fleets, and the inscription on this side was CONSERVAT UTRAMQUE, i.e., *she preserves each*. On the other side, two warriors in the Roman dress (the short tunic of one of them seeming to be party-coloured, by a faint appearance of chequering) were in the act of leaping on warlike instruments or trophies on a globe. The inscription upon this side was DURUS PRÆLATA TROPÆIS. It was imagined that the artist had by mistake put *Duras* for *Duris*, because, with such a small change, the two inscriptions spoke sense and grammar, and chimed into one hexameter verse:—CONSERVAT UTRAMQUE; DURIS PRÆLATA TROPÆIS. It seemed natural to suppose that the female figure, with her lance pointed down, was an emblem of peace, which had pre-



served two fleets and nations, and that the invaders and invaded had mutually preserved the blessings of peace to their hard-worn trophies, and sealed their treaty of amity by such offerings on the altars as were suitable to their modes of worship.

This Medallion was transmitted to the Secretary of the Society of Antiquaries, Edinburgh, requesting the opinion of that body; but they took no notice of this curious relic, probably because they could not.

Had it been found near Sweno's Stone it might possibly have been connected therewith.

A bullet-shaped Stone, weighing several cwts., was found at Bahill, Rafford, which was given to Mr. Matthews by a former generation of his family. On leaving Forres for Argyleshire he handed it to the Museum. This relic is of hard granite, without a single scar. Local antiquaries opine that it was connected with the worship of the Druids—such being in the vicinity of their altars; suspected culprits having been placed in a cradle on its top. If the cradle rocked on the stone, the victim was adjudged guilty; if it did or would not rock, release ensued.] (ED.)

The scenery on the River Findhorn is by far the finest in Moray. This mountain-river takes its rise in the Monad-leadh Hills, and traversing a country of 60 miles in direct extent, increased by its windings of 30 miles more, it falls into the Moray Firth. In its course to the sea it struggles on through many opposing barriers of granite mountains—rushing through these narrow gorges with boiling and tumultuous current—now reposing its still waters in some round sweeping dark pool, and now patiently but assiduously wearing its way through the dark red sandstone cliffs which jut out from its channel, or which range in layer above layer, forming high barriers on its banks, while plants and shrubs, and lofty trees, crown and encompass the steep heights, and contrast finely their variegated green with the deep red of the cliffs on which they grow. Here, where in some overshadowed dells the summer sun with difficulty penetrates, is the solitary abode of the eagle or falcon, or the eyries of the congregated heron, thickly perched among the trees; while during the hot noon, the ascending salmon rest by dozens in the deep dark pools.

As the stream winds towards the sea its course becomes

less interrupted and boisterous; it now sweeps along fertile meadows and wooded copses, till at last all opposition giving way, it flows out a broad, still, and placid expanse of water, and meets the tides of the ocean half way up the smooth sandy bay. A low and level district surrounds the estuary of the Findhorn, and during the ever memorable floods of August, 1829, such was the rapidity of the rise of the stream, now swelled into another Amazon, that the whole plain to the north and west of Forres became one sea of water, so that a large boat, in full sail, swept along the fields to within a few yards of the burgh.] (Rhind's *Sketches of Moray*.)

#### THE PARISH OF RAFFORD

Lieth south-east from Forres. The Church standeth near the centre, 2 miles south-east of Forres, and 5 miles north-east of Edinkyllie. In the north-east end is the barony of Burgie, and the seat of Joseph Dunbar of Grange, a branch of the Dunbars of Mochrum. Mr. Alexander Dunbar, Dean of Moray (and very probably son of Mochrum), was one of the Lords of Session anno 1567 (*And. Col.*). He married Katherine Reid, daughter of Thomas and niece of Robert Reid, Abbot of Kinloss, and Bishop of Orkney, and with her got a part of the Abbey-lands, such as Burgie, Grange, &c. His son Thomas Dunbar was father of Robert of Grange by a first marriage, and of Robert of Burgie by a second. About 1680 (Burgie having run deep in debt to his cousin), Grange got possession of Burgie by adjudication, and made it his seat. Below Burgie lieth Tarras, which (with Clunie in the upper end



of the parish) pertaineth to the Earl of Moray. West from Burgie is the barony of Blarvie, a part of the Church or Bishop's lands. It was long the heritage of the family of Dunbars. In the beginning of this century, it was purchased by Alexander MacIntosh, son of John MacIntosh, bailie of Inverness; and from him it was purchased by William, late Earl Fife, and is now the property of his son Captain Lewis Duff. South from the Church a mile and a half, stands the House of Altyre, the seat of Cummine of Altyre, reputed chief of that name.

*Altyre House* is fitted up in the modern Italian style, and has been enlarged and improved by succeeding baronets. Where the mansion now stands was a shooting-lodge, in front of which, in 1795, Sir A. P. Cumming built a residence—to which his son Sir William built an east wing; and in 1859 the late Sir A. P. Gordon Cumming added a west wing, and other improvements. Miss Catherine Sinclair eulogises the spot “as a perfect cluster of arbours and green-houses, apparently a home for the muses and graces, for pleasure, gaiety, and romance; but never intended for the mere vulgar ordinary purposes of life. Within, without, and around, you see nothing but flowers rushing in at every window, covering every table, and besetting all the doors. This is the Court of Flora herself, and you would suppose we had come to a horticultural show.”

The paintings and statuary are unmatched in any seat in the Province of Moray; while the grounds and gardens vie with the richest examples of park scenery in this country. There is a beautiful semicircular vale called *St. John's Mead*, where was a small Religious House.

This family represents the Earls of Badenoch, whose curious Charters and Extracts of the Baron Court-books of Altyre have been published.

[In 1657, Robert Comyn, the Laird of Altyre, married

Lucy, eldest daughter of Sir Ludovick Gordon of Gordonston, through whom, on the death of Sir William Gordon in 1795, the estate of Gordonston devolved on Alexander Penrose Cumming of Altyre, who thereupon assumed the name and arms of Gordonston, and was created a Baronet of Great Britain in 1804, and died in 1806. He was succeeded by Sir William Gordon Gordon Cumming, 2nd Bart. of Altyre and Gordonston, who married a daughter of Campbell of Islay, and grand-daughter of the 5th Duke of Argyll. Sir William died in 1854, and was succeeded by his son, Sir Alexander Penrose Gordon Cumming, 3rd Bart., who was born at Altyre in 1816. In 1845 he married Anne Pitcairn Campbell, only daughter of the Rev. Augustus Campbell, Rector of Liverpool. On Sir Alexander's death at Edinburgh in 1866, the present Baronet, Sir William Gordon Gordon Cumming, succeeded to the titles and estates, he being then in his 19th year.

*Burgie Castle* is a striking fabric, consisting of a square tower of six storeys, built in 1602, now situated in the garden of an adjoining mansion of three storeys, picturesquely built partly from the stones of the old castle in 1702. The shrubberies and trees are beautiful. Dr. Wm. Gordon, M.D., occupies Burgie House.

*Burgin* frequently occurs in the *Registrum Episcopatus Moraviense*. It was attached to the Abbey of Kinloss. Alex. Dunbar was the first laird of the estate of Burgie, who married Katherine Reid, the niece of Robert Reid, the last Abbot. The date 1662, with the arms and initials of these Dunbars, are cut on the chimney-piece of the hall. Burgie is now the possession of the trustees of Robert Tulloch, deceased.

*Blervie Castle or Tower* is about 2½ miles south-east of Forres, and north of the manse of Rafford. A mere fragment now exists, excepting the square tower (containing the staircase) of five storeys—an etching of which is given in Rhind's *Sketches of Moray*, as it stood in 1839. The present House of Blervie was built from the stones of the old castle of date 1398—as appears from a stone forming part of the chimney-piece of the hall, still in the ruins. The old pile stood for several hours fire-proof, when many loads of wood and turf were piled around it, in order, as was conjectured, to get more easy access to the stones than by punching them down. There is no



trace of the family of Blarie, Blarvie, Blairvie, or Blervie, farther back than 1713-1724, when Alexander M'Intosh was laird. William, Earl of Fife, purchased it at the last date—and it is now the possession of Mr. Grant Duff, M.P. for the Elgin Burghs.] (Ed.)

## RAFFORD.

[*Situation, Soil, Climate.*—The body of this parish lies southward of Forres, in an extension of the plain into the mountain, along the western end of the hill which separates the vale of Pluscarden from the dales of Alves, to which upon the northern side of this hill a wing of this parish is stretched. From the extremity of this wing at the east to the border of Edinkillie at the west, the parish measures 8 miles; but its mean length in this direction, equal to its mean breadth, may be estimated only at the half of that extent. The name in Gaelic may be *Rath-ard*, signifying *the hovel of the height*, or *shealing*, as it is denominated in the Highlands of Scotland, a sorry temporary turf cabin, for the accommodation of mountain pasturage, having at the first probably occupied the station of the old tower of Blervie.

The face of the country is much diversified: a considerable reach of the bottom of the valley lies so level, as easily to send a part of the water of a small lake southward towards Dollas, where it joins the Lochty, turning eastward through Pluscarden, and northward by the Church to Forres and the bay of Findern. A considerable part of the arable field lies on the plains at the bottom, and a great part on the sloping sides of the hills. In some places, the soil is a deep fertile clay; in others, a light burning sand: a black shallow soil, incumbent on rock, occupies some part; and a bed of moorish soil, in many places so thin as scarcely to cover the flat sloping rocks, appears in other parts; and a great proportion consists of a rough brown gravel, on a bottom of small pebble, so firmly cemented by some mineral, probably iron ore, as to be impenetrable by the utmost power of the plough. The air is rather dry than moist, and rather healthful than otherwise.

*State of Property.*—There are three family-seats in the parish. Burgie Castle, the property of Lewis Dunbar, Esq., of Grange, has been above described. His valued

rent in this parish amounts to £877 13s. 8d. Scots. The Hon. Major Lewis Duff, of Blervie, quitting the ancient castled residence of the Dunbars on the summit of the hill, has built a handsome modern seat, snugly sheltered near its western bottom, embellished with plantations, gardens, and ornamented grounds: the valued rent amounts to £517 17s. 4d. Scots. Altyr, the family seat of Colonel Alexander Penrose Cuming Gordon, is a plain old building, with neat modern wings. Widely-extended plantations, a spacious garden, and a long reach of fruit wall, exhibit at this place utility in alliance with embellishment: the valued rent is £676 13s. Scots. While these gentlemen thus contribute to the improvement of the country at their own residences, the Earl of Moray has done more than co-operated with them, in the superior neatness of the dwellings of his tenants at Clunie and Tarras, and in the improved appearance of their fields. His Lordship's valued rent of these lands amounts to £541 14s. 10d.—extending the valuation of the parish to £2613 18s. 10d. Scots: the present real rent is estimated at £1800 sterling. There are several of the farms in the low grounds pretty extensive; but they are of small extent in the hilly parts of the parish. Making a reasonable allowance for the value of the improved inclosures in the occupation of the proprietors, the mean rent is equal to £1 6s. sterling the acre.

*State Ecclesiastical.*—Rafford was the seat of the subchanter in the diocese. Of the state of the parish of Altyr before the Reformation, there is nothing certainly known: it never had a pastor for itself, under any of the Protestant dispensations. Though a part of the parish of Dollas, it had an independent parochial jurisdiction, the separate celebration of the sacraments, and public worship every third Sunday. In a parochial visitation of the clergy during the fervour of the Covenant, everything was found well ordered, save that the Sacrament had not been celebrated for the space of three years, which Mr. Strachan the minister excused, by the ignorance of the people, on account of the distance of his residence, but promised to do all he could to prepare them for it.

Altyr is within two miles of Rafford, and nearly 14 from Dollas, a desert mountain, often impassable, intervening for half that distance; yet the annexation was



obstinately opposed by its proprietor, and its accomplishment required the utmost exertion of the clergy, great as their influence at that period was. The record bears, "it was for some time deferred, because the laird could not be found at home." When his presence was at last won, "he alleged he had weighty reasons against the annexation, and craved a delay to state them in writing." They were not entered on the record: "but after many addresses made, and debating with him for many days, and Lord Brodie, having reasoned with him apart, reported, that having offered all arguments, perceived he had a mind to receive no satisfaction; the presbytery laid the business to heart, and being much weighted therewith, did desire the laird of Altyre to tell his judgment, who, with all the elders and people, do acknowledge, with heaviness of mind, that there is a necessity of accommodation, and wish that a way may be found for remedy: the presbytery being much affected with the sad condition of Dollas and Altyr, agree that Altyr should be declared to be joined for accommodation to Rafford, and to crave the approbation of the synod. And upon the 19th of August, 1659, Mr. James Strachan of Dollas and Altyr was ordained to intimate publicly to the people of Altyr, upon the Lord's day come eight days, that they were now disjoined from Dollas, and annexed to the parish of Rafford, and ordained to repair to the said Parish Church in all time coming; and Mr. Fullerton, minister thereof, to take up their names, and have a care of them as of the rest of his parishioners." Although this must have been agreeable to the people, both from their own ideas concerning religious obligation, and from the sanction of ecclesiastical decree, at that time of no light estimation, yet so greatly did the awe of petty despotism preponderate, when the lives and properties of the inhabitants were under the arbitrary award of each capricious baronial proprietor, that in the parochial visitation of the succeeding year, "complaint is made by the minister, that Altyr and his people totally absented themselves from Rafford Church; and the presbytery, after application and addresses made to Altyr, to move him fairly to his duty, ordain the minister to summon before them the Laird of Altyr, and the other inhabitants of the late parish there." It has been already mentioned, that the authority of the Parlia-

ment was in the following year conjoined with the sanction of the Church, by the Act which ratifies the erection of the parish of Kinloss.

The Church at present is a mean fabric, but in a central situation. The stipend is £55 11s. 1d. sterling, and 6 chalders of barley, the Communion allowance included. The right of patronage appertains to Miss Brodie of Lethin. The salary of the school, exclusive of the fees of teaching, and the perquisites of the Session-Clerk, are 16 bolls of bear. The poor on the parish roll amount to 40: the tenants who attend the Parochial Church contribute for their support about £9 sterling in the year, to which there is only to add the interest of £50. The members of the National Church are 1064, and the Seceders are 7.

*Miscellaneous Information.*—The people, on the whole, are a sensible, decent, and religious society. The great occupation of the female part is spinning flax raised on the farms, and manufactured into sheeting, diaper, and sackcloth; and many of the poorer class spin the lint of the merchants, at 10d. and 1s. the spindle. This gives employment to 16 or 17 looms in the parish. Several of the farmers also work up timber, and make their own ploughs, carts, and other implements. There is a fine quarry of freestone on the estate of Burgie, to which the access is easy, and the stone durable and not difficult in working. There is also a slate quarry on the estate of Clunie, let out by the tenant of that farm to quarriers, at the rate of 3s. 4d. the 1000 untrimmed slate. The noted Obelisk, called *Sueno's Stone*, on the estate of Tarras, has been amply described by Pennant and Cordiner. It cannot be doubted, that it has been erected in memory of some important event which happened before the introduction of letters into Scotland. It is at once a specimen of hieroglyphic writing, and a monument of the state of the arts in this kingdom in an age very remote. The sculpture, if it had remained complete, could not even yet be deemed inelegant; and it must have required no small degree of skill to have quarried, transported, and erected a Column of such height. Two circumstances are somewhat surprising: that curiosity has never thought of exploring whether anything lies hid about its base; and, that regard for such a singularly splendid Monument has neither induced its noble owner,



or the gentlemen of the county, to preserve the figures it still exhibits from the effacing influence of the weather, by such a simple expedient as a coating or two of paint; seeing the expense of a small ornamental building over it might be deemed too great a sacrifice to an object in which our ancestors only were interested.] (*Survey of the Province of Moray.*)

And this leads me to speak of

THE FAMILY OF CUMMINE, COMYN, OR CUMMING.

Cummine is a surname of great antiquity in Scotland; but the origin of it is not agreed on. Some deduce it from Hungary, others from Normandy with William the Conqueror; but I incline to think that the name is a Scottish patronimic.

It was anciently the custom to assume a surname from reputed saints, or eminent men; as Anderson from St. Andrew; Cuthbertson from St. Cuthbert; Catanach, from St. Catan, &c.; and the learned Primate Usher (*Antiq. Eccles. Brit. cap. 15*, p. 694 and 701) shows that Comineus Albus, anno 657, was the sixth Abbot of the 1st Columbkil; from whom I would deduce the name. And the frequent mention of the Cummines, in the 11th and 12th centuries, is a presumption of a higher original than the days of William the Conqueror.

The direct line of the family of Cummine, from father to son, is as follows:—(1) Comes Robertus Cummine was killed in the battle of Alnwick in

1093. His son (2) John, whose brother William was Chancellor to King David I., was father of (3) Sir William, who married Hexilda, granddaughter of King Donald the Usurper, and was father of (4) William, Lord Chamberlain to King William. His son (5), Sir Richard, was father of Sir John, the *Red Cummine*, Lord Badenoch, and of Sir Walter, Earl of Monteith, and Sir William, Earl of Buchan. (6) Sir John, Lord Badenoch, was father of (7) John, the *Black Cummine*, one of the Governors of Scotland in 1286, who married Marjory, sister of King John Baliol, which wrapped him into the Baliol interest, to the ruin of his family. His son (8) John, Lord Badenoch, was killed by Robert Bruce in the Church of Dumfries, in 1306, leaving a son (9) John, who died without issue in 1326; and in him failed the direct line of a family, once the most populous and powerful in Scotland.

Tradition bears that the family of Altyre is come off a son of the direct line; but at what time I find not. They resided for some generations in Strath-Dallas, and built the Tower there. How early they assumed the title of Altyre I know not. But I find in a contract between William Thane of Calder and Hutcheon Rose of Kilravock, 21st June, 1482, Thomas Cummine of Altyre is arbiter. I have not seen the writes of this family, and therefore will not offer to deduce the genealogy of it.



[The present representative is Sir William Gordon-Gordon, Bart. (cr. 1804), eldest son of the late Sir Alex. Penrose Gordon-Cumming, Bart. of Altyre, by Anne, daughter of the Rev. Augustus Campbell, Rector of Liverpool, born 1848; succeeded as 4th Bart., 1866; educated at Eton. Heir presumptive, his brother, Alexander Penrose, educated at Harrow; born 1853; married at Washington, 1877, Frances Campbell, only daughter of the late Hon. Charles Eames, United States Minister at Venezuela; and has a daughter, Margaret Campbell, born at Washington, U.S., 3rd April, 1878.] (Ed.)

They carry the paternal arms of Cummine, without any mark of cadency, viz., Az. 3 Garbs of Cummines, Or.

Arms of the House of Altyre. Azure, three garbs of wheat, Or. Crest, a Lyon rampant, Or. holding in his dexter paw a Dagger proper. Motto, COURAGE. Supporters, two Horses at liberty, Argent; Their manes, tails, and hoofs, Or.

Following the course of the river Erne, I now proceed to

#### EDINKILLIE PARISH,

*I.e. the Face of the Wood, or a Wood in the face of the Hill.* I incline to think that here was the Kawood and Logiefoidikenach mentioned [in a Chart by Alexander, King of the Scots, dated at Dishington, in Northumbria, the 30th Sept., in the 22nd year of his reign, granting to Andrew, Bishop of Moray, and to his successors in office, three davochs of Finlarg, in Strathspey, in exchange for the above], and that most part of this parish was anciently a forest. It now lieth on both sides of the river Erne.

The Church standeth on a brook, called Duvie [Divie], 5 miles south of Forres, 3 miles north-east of Ardelach, and 7 miles north of Cromdale.

In the south-east of the parish, a part of the estate of Altyre, viz., Phorp, Brylac, Dallas-brachtie, &c., lie in the face of the ridge of hills towards Strathspey. Westward on the river is Sluie, pertaining to James Cummine (grandson of Mr. David Cummine, minister at Edinkillie) of the family of Relucas. Above which, on the river, is Logie, the heritage of Robert Cummine, a branch of the House of Altyre.

Next up the river, and south of Duvie-water, which here falleth into the river, is Relucas, the heritage of Dr. Patrick Cummine, minister at Edinburgh, whose family have enjoyed that estate for several generations.

In the south end of the parish, on a brook called Dava, are the lands of Knock, Tombain, Kerraw, &c., the property of the Earl of Moray. On the west side of the river Erne, the parish runneth north to the gates of Tarnua Castle. The lands of Dunduff, in this parish, were the heritage of William Falconer, son of Alexander of Halkerton and Leithin, and father of Colin, Bishop of Moray; but now all this part of the parish is the property of the Earl of Moray, and the whole parish was anciently a part of that Earldom.

From Relucas to the S.E., on both sides of



Duvie water, is the barony of Dunphail, which was the heritage of Dunbar of Dunphail, descended of Westfield, for near 250 years, and about 1738 purchased by Colonel Ludovick Grant, brother to Sir James Grant of Grant. The Colonel dying in 1742, in the expedition to Carthagera, the barony is now the property of Sir James Grant.

[Helen, 5th daughter of Sir Ludovick Grant, married Sir Alex. Penrose Gordon Cumming of Altyre, and the estate of Dunphail was purchased by Sir Alexander from Sir James Grant, the above Lady Helen Grant's brother. On the death of Sir Alexander, in 1806, the estate was willed to his second son, Major Cumming, who married Mary Bruce of Kinnaird (a grand-daughter of Bruce, the Abyssinian traveller), when he assumed the surname of Bruce.

*The Old Tower of Dunphail Castle* stands on an isolated rock or conical hill beyond the Kirk of Edinkillie,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  miles south of Forres. It withstood a siege by Randolph, Earl of Moray, after the Battle of the Standard. The modern mansion, in the Venetian style of Architecture, from plans by Playfair, was built in 1829.] (Ed.)

#### EDINKILLIE.

[*Situation, Soil, Climate.*—This parish extends westward 12 miles from the borders of Dollas and Rafford, and as far southerly from the confines of Forres. It lies partly along the bottom, and upon the side of the mountain, which has been described as ranging along the champaign of Moray; from which circumstance its Scots name is *Brea-Moray*, that is, *the acclivity of Moray*. Its ancient Gaelic appellation, AODINCOILLIE, signifies *the face of the wood*; and a charter from King David Bruce, another towards the end of the 15th century, and the great quantities of oak, fir, and other kinds of timber, still dug from the tracks of peat soil, concur to show that the whole face of the country was covered with wood. It then contained two royal forests—*Drummynde*, that is, *the venison hill*, now destitute of wood, and *Darnway*,

still covering almost 1000 acres. The river Findern divides the parish for some miles, and two of its most considerable branches have the whole of their courses within its extent—the Duvie, that is, *the black water*, descending from the hills which border upon Cromdale, meets a little below the Church with the Durbach, discharged from the lake of Lochnadorb, on the western boundary of the parish. These rivers are supposed by their rapidity to purify the air, which is healthful, never tainted by noxious fogs, or pernicious exhalations. The soil of the lower parts near the rivers is sandy, of a light dry quality, and fertile when properly managed; but a great proportion is moorish, and extensive moors remain to be improved.

*State of Property.*—The parish appertains to four proprietors. In a beautiful wooded dale, on the southern bank of the Findern, is the family seat of Robert Cumming of Logie, Esq., a large modern handsome house of four storeys, with an elegant pavilion roof. To the extensive garden which his ancestors had formed he has added an orchard of 4 acres, sheltered by groves of forest trees, and a winding bank, from every adverse blast. A number of ash trees have shot up to the height of almost 100 feet, but the fruit trees stand open to the reverberated power of the southern sun, and in general the crop is plentiful. The estate is embellished by plantations and natural wood to a considerable extent. Its valued rent is £239 15s. 10d. Scots.

A little higher up upon the Divie is Relucas, the seat of George Cumming, Esq., Writer to the Signet. The house is elegant, embellished by enclosures, plantations, and many well-disposed groves, equal in whole to 200 acres, among which are intermingled more than 60,000 thriving oaks. Many enchanting walks have been also formed along the winding banks both of the Duvie and Findern, which unite their streams a little below the house. The valued rent is £194 9s. 8d.

There is also some natural wood, and a full-grown plantation of fir of considerable extent, upon the barony of Dumphail, which, with the lands of Phorp, Edinkillie, Tulliglens, and Dallasbraughty, appertain to Colonel Alexander Penrose Cumming of Altyr and Gordonstown, amounting to the valuation of £679 9s. 2d.



The rest of the parish is the property of the Earl of Moray. In the higher district, the lands of Brea-Moray extend from the sources of the Duvie to the banks of Lochnadorb, upon a part of which Mr. Forbes of Culloiden holds a lease, and has built handsome hunting quarters. In the lower district of the parish, where its boundary is formed by a brook winding through the gardens, and purling under the Castle of Darnaway, the forest extends more than 5 miles, mostly on the northern bank of the Findern, exhibiting a vast extent of oak, ash, elm, and venerable fir, blended with the distinguished form of the weeping birch, in countless multitude, and the bole of many more than 8 feet in circumference. His Lordship's valued rent in this parish of £831 13s. 4d. makes its total valuation equal to £1945 8s. Scots. The farms are of small extent, from £3 to £10, a few rising to the rent of £20. The arable land may be estimated at the mean rent of 15s. the acre.

*State Ecclesiastical.*—The Church is in a central situation, on the banks of the Duvie, which tumbles through a deep rocky channel under the Manse, in a steep bank of which, inaccessible to cattle, a few aspen, birch, and green trees, have established themselves. The stipend, including the allowance for the Communion, is £70 sterling, and 3 chalders of victual, the one half barley, the other oatmeal. The glebe, which the incumbent has inclosed, is 8 acres, exclusive of a small garden. The right of patronage appertains to the family of Moray. The salary of the parochial school was doubled in the year 1796, and now amounts to the revenue of £11 2s. 2d. 8-12ths sterling. With the fees of education, and the emoluments of Session-Clerk, it is almost equal to £18 in the year.

Dr. Duncan Cumming, of the family of Relucos, physician to King William, at the Battle of the Boyne, settled afterwards in Dublin, made a donation in the year 1714 to the Society for Christian Knowledge, with a recommendation to establish therewith 3 schools in the parish of his nativity. This donation of £261 13s. 7d. sterling, at that time of no small account, is equal at present to the maintenance of two schools—one established at Relucos, retaining about 20 scholars, and the other in the forest of Darnaway, retaining about 30, which is also the mean number attending the parochial school; and a school-

mistress upon the estate of Logie retains about a dozen. Though pretty numerous in winter, they fail greatly, on account of tending the cattle, in the summer months. The whole number who were entered in all the schools in the course of the year 1796, amounted to 200.

The number of the poor on the roll is 33. The provision for their support, arising wholly from the contributions of the people, who themselves are far from opulent, exceeds not £5 in the year. The number of the people, by an accurate enumeration in 1793, amounted exactly to 1312, all members of the National Church.

*Miscellaneous Information.*—In the upper part of the parish the Gaelic language is much in use. About 50 years ago, half the public worship was performed in that tongue; and in the remaining parishes of this survey, Dyke and Auldern excluded, until it reach to Knockando and Aberlour, upon the banks of the Spey, that dialect may be still accounted the mother tongue. The people, though poor, are in general honest, and far from backward in extending their charity. Their ideas respecting religion are rigidly Calvinistical.

The Dun or Doun of Relugas seems to have been a place of defence more ancient than the ancient fortresses of Lochnadorb and Dunphail. It is a conical hill. Round a considerable part of its base, the rapid stream of Divie occupies a deep rocky channel. The other part is guarded by a ditch equally impassable, having the sides lined by a strong rampart of stone, bearing in some parts the appearance of vitrification. The summit, 220 feet of perpendicular height above the river, is a level space of 60 by 20 yards. When the country was shrouded in wood, it must have been concealed, and so far inaccessible as to have been easily defended by a few. It is at present occupied only as nursery ground.

Sir James Grant of Grant has lately formed a new road from Grantown to Elgin, lessening the distance on the whole about 6 miles. In the course of this road, passing through the southern side of the parish tending to Pluscarden, a circumstance was discovered, establishing the formation of peat earth, from the natural dissolution of wood. In cutting through a bed of this substance, about 2 feet from the surface, a matted layer of the roots of fir trees was found to have grown upon an under bed of the



same kind of soil, which being also thrown up, a second tire of similar roots appeared, which had also grown upon a third bed of the same substance, which derived its original from the dissolution of the timber which grew upon the natural soil, the roots of which in a similar form remained in a firm sole of clay gravel, at the depth of nearly nine feet from the surface.] (*Survey of the Province of Moray.*)

THE FAMILY OF CUMMINE OF RYLUCAS OR RELUGAS.

It cannot be questioned that Cummine of Relugas is descended of the family of Lord Badenoch. It is said that they possessed the lands of Presley, above 300 years ago; and I think it probable that their ancestor was a son of Cummine of Glenchernich, a direct branch from Lord Badenoch. The lands of Relugas were purchased by James Cummine of Presley, son to William Cummine of Presley. This James was father of a numerous family, who were much and justly respected, and were firm adherers to the religion and liberties of their country, in the reigns of the Royal Brothers. James of Relugas was much esteemed in the country of Moray. He was succeeded by his eldest son, John Cummine of Relugas. His second son, William, was Professor of Philosophy in the University of Edinburgh. John, the third son, was Minister of Aldearn, and Dean of Moray, a man of great piety and benevolence. In the year 1681, he, with many more of the clergy, subscribed the Test, with an explanation; but, upon reflection, he retracted, and

demitted his charge in 1682; yet so much was he regarded that the Earl of Findlater, to whom he was related, called him to the parish of Cullen, where he lived undisturbed. David, the 4th son, was Minister of Edinkylie, a man of such knowledge and prudence, that his house was a little academy, in which the children of the best families in the neighbourhood had their education. Patrick, the 5th son, was Minister of Ormiston; and Duncan, the youngest, was a Doctor of Medicine, and was Physician to King William's army at the Battle of the Boyne in 1690. Afterwards he settled in Dublin, where he died in 1724. So great was his desire to propagate the knowledge of the Christian religion that he made a contribution in Ireland, of which he himself gave £100 St., and upon this three schools were established in Edinkillie. John was succeeded by his eldest son, James Cummine of Relugas, who, by Jean, daughter of Robert Cummine of Altyre, had two sons—Robert, his heir, and John, a physician in Irvine. Robert Cummine of Relugas, by Magdalene Fraser, of the family of Kinkell, a cadet of the house of Lovat, had two sons—Patrick, his heir, and John. Robert was succeeded by his eldest son, the Rev. Mr. Patrick Cummine of Relugas, D.D., Regius Professor of Divinity and Ecclesiastical History in the University of Edinburgh, and one of the Ministers of that city.



[He was leader of the General Assembly for 20 years. He was three times Moderator—in 1749, 1752, and 1756. He died on the 1st April, 1776, in the 81st year of his age and 56th of his ministry. His eldest son, Robert, succeeded him as Professor of Church History and Divinity, in the University of Edinburgh. Dr. Cumin married Jean Lauder, daughter of David Lauder, 3rd son of Sir John Lauder of Fountainhall; and besides Professor Robert, above mentioned, and another son, had Patrick, Professor of Oriental Languages in the University of Glasgow, and George, a Writer to the Signet in Edinburgh. This younger son bought the estate of Relugas from his father, who set about improving its bare, rugged, and unpromising appearance, planted large tracts, and made it romantic and attractive. He died in 1804, leaving an only daughter, Charles Anne Cumin, who was heiress of Relugas, and married her 3rd cousin, Sir Thomas Dick Lauder, Bart. of Grange and Fountainhall, author of "*The Moray Floods in 1829*," "*The Wolf of Badenoch*," "*Lochindorb*," &c. In 1847 the estate was sold to Wm. M'Killigan of Ceylon, and at his death in 1852, it was purchased by the present proprietor, George R. Smith, head of the firm of Smith, Payne & Smith, bankers, London.

All that art, guided by good taste, could accomplish, in embellishing and exposing to view the natural beauties of the estate, has been done for it. Part of the former abode remains, bearing the date 1785. In 1865 the proprietor erected, near Randolphs Bridge, on the banks of the Findhorn, a tablet with a Latin inscription, in gratitude to Major C. L. Cumming Bruce of Dunphail, M.P., for having designed the romantic walks through the woods and rocks along the hitherto almost inaccessible banks of the Findhorn. Graphic and exciting details of the devastation on the Relugas property are given at Chap. VII., *Account of the Great Floods of August, 1829.* (ED.)

#### THE FAMILY OF CUMMING OF LOGIE.

[Robert Cumming, the 12th Baron of Altyre, by his wife, Isobel Innes, daughter of Sir Robert Innes of Balvenie, had two sons—Robert, his successor in the estate of Altyre; and John, the first of this family.

1. John Cumming, second son of Robert Cumming of

Altyre, obtained from his brother, Robert, the lands of Pittyveach, in the parish of Mortlach, which he afterwards sold, and purchased the estate of Logie, in the parish of Edinkillie. He was a Major in the British army, and a Commissioner of Supply for the county of Elgin in 1678 and 1685. He married Barbara, a daughter of Cumming of Birness, by whom he had three sons and three daughters, viz.—1, Robert, his heir; 2, William, who was a Minister of the Church of England, and had a benefice in that country (he married there, and had a son, William, a doctor of medicine); 3, David, died unmarried. First daughter, Jane, married to William Sutherland of Rosehaugh; second, Barbara, died without issue; third, a daughter, married to Robert Innes of Mundle. He was succeeded by his eldest son,

2. Robert Cumming of Logie, who married Margaret, daughter of Andrew Leslie of Glen of Rothes and Bogs, by whom he had three sons—1, Alexander, his heir; 2, James, died unmarried; 3, William, who married, and had issue.

3. Alexander Cumming of Logie succeeded his father. He married—first, Lucy, daughter of Dunbar of Burgie, by whom he had no surviving issue; second, Grace, eldest daughter of James Grant of Rothiemurchus, by whom he had one son, Robert, and several daughters. The eldest daughter was married to John Rose of Holme.

4. Robert Cumming of Logie, only son of the preceding. He married Leslie Baillie, daughter of Robert Baillie of Mayville, an Ayrshire proprietor. Her beauty and accomplishments have been immortalised by Robert Burns. By her he had five sons and one daughter—1, Alexander, his heir; 2, Robert, an officer in India; 3, George, doctor of medicine in India; 4, John, Lieutenant-Colonel in the East India Company's service; 5, William, doctor of medicine; daughter, Anne, married—first to Capt. Fraser, and second, to Sir James Cox, M.D. Mr. Cumming's five sons all went to India, and most of them died there at an early age. The only survivor of the sons is Dr. William Cumming, who resides in Edinburgh, is an accomplished scholar, and the author of several literary works. Mrs. Cumming long survived her husband, and was much esteemed for her benevolence of character, kindness of disposition, and agreeable manners.



5. Alexander Cumming of Logie, who went to India, married Louisa, daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel Martin White, Commandant in Bengal, and had three daughters, among whom were Leslie and Emily Frances. He died at an early age. His eldest daughter succeeded. She was accidentally burnt to death, in consequence of her dress taking fire. She was succeeded by her sister, Emily Frances.

6. Emily Frances, married to Captain Valiant Cumming, younger son of Sir Thomas Valiant, who, on his marriage, assumed the name of Cumming, and by whom she has issue. Her husband died at Bath in the year 1866, from the effects of an accident, having been accidentally thrown from his carriage.

*Logie House* is in the old Baronial style of architecture, and has been greatly enlarged some years ago.] (ED.)

Next is

#### THE PARISH OF ARDCLACH,

I.e., *a stony high ground*, on both sides of the river. The Church standeth on the south-west bank of the river, 3 miles south-west of Edinkillie, 9 miles south-east of Moy, and 5 miles east of Calder. On the east side of the river are the lands of Ardrie, Logie, Fernes, and Aitnach, pertaining to Hugh Rose of Kilravock; and above these is Dunern, the property of the family of Brodie of Lethin. Close by the Church of Edinkillie, on the opposite side of the brook, is Glenernie, a small feu possessed for several generations by a branch of the Frasers, descended of Hugh, laird of Beaufort, who died anno 1450. In 1526, Dallasbrachtie, Craigroy, Glenernie [*Note*, these now belong to Altyre], Ardrie, and Logiegown, were the feu-property of James Dunbar of Cunzie

and Kilbuyack (*pen. Cald.*). Mr. James Grant of Ardnellie, son of Duncan Grant of Grant, purchased Logie and Arderie; and his son, John of Logie, having purchased Moyness, his brother William had Logie, from whose heirs it came to Kilravock. The lands of Fernes and Aitnach were sold by Bishop Patrick Hepburn to John Wood of Tilliderie, who disposed them to Kilravock.

On the west side of the river, and close by it, is Daltulick and Culmonie, purchased from Bishop Hepburn in 1545, and ratified by the Pope's bull in 1548. At Culmonie, Kilravock has built a neat summer-house, and adorned the place with planting and enclosures. North-west is the barony of Bellivat and Middle Fleeness, which, for several generations, were the heritage of Rose of Bellivat (afterwards Blackhills), and about the year 1605 were sold to Falconer of Lethin, and they are now the property of Brodie of Lethin, and so are the lands above Culmonie, on the side of the river, above three miles. These were a part of the estate of Lethin (*Vid. Aldern. Par.*). The lands of Keppernack and Boath, in the south-west end of the parish, and Benhir in the Streins, are the property of John Campbell of Calder. Anno 1236, *regni Alexander II.* 22° Alexander de Horstrot obtained a charter of Boath and Benhir (*pen. Cald.*), and from him the Thane of Calder purchased it. In 1568, Fleeness and Keppernack was the property of Mr.



Alexander Campbell, son of Sir John Campbell of Calder, sold to Sir John 25th June, 1545, by Patrick Hepburn, Bishop of Moray (*pen. Cald.*). And Alexander's great-grandson, John Campbell of Moy, sold these lands to John Hay of Lochloy, anno 1665, who disposed them to Sir Hugh Campbell of Calder, anno 1669 (*Ibid.*) Two miles above the Church is the Bridge of Doulasie [Dulsie], and for 4 miles farther the strath or valley is very narrow, enclosed with high hills, and called the Streins [or Streens, from the sides of which are precipitous mountains of granite], consisting of three davachs of land, the lower in Ardcloch, the middle in Calder, and the upper in Moy parish, all the property of John Campbell of Calder.

[The *Streens* have been made accessible to carriages by a road formed by Lord Cawdor for the use of his tenants, and which, proceeding from the village of Cawdor is about 9 miles long.

About a mile below Dulsie, a beautiful sequestered holm, adjoining the house and policies of Farness (Dougall), greets the traveller, enriched with terraced banks and birchen bowers, and in the centre of it rises a small Cairn, with an ancient sculptured Tablet, about 8 feet high and 4 feet broad, standing at one end of it, and having a rude Cross and many runic knots discernible. Tradition calls it the Stone of memorial of a Celtic princess who was drowned in the adjoining river while attempting to ford it on horseback with her lover, a Dane. More likely it was the Cross of an early Christian hermit.] (ED.)

This leads me to

THE PARISH OF MOY.

The united parish of Moy and Dalarasie [Dalarossie, or Dalfergussie.] *Moy*, from the Irish *Mayh*, signifies a meadow or plain; and *Dale-Fergusie* is Fergus's valley. This parish stretcheth on both sides of the river about 15 miles, and is strictly called *Strathearn* [or *Strathdearn*,] a part of the ancient Earldom of Moray. On the south west of the river, above the Streins, the Davach of Moy jutteth north west among the hills above 2 miles, in the middle of which is the Loch of Moy, a mile long, and a half mile broad. Here, in an island, the Lairds of MacIntosh had a house, as yet entire, where they resided in times of trouble. Now they have Moyhall, a good house and convenient summer-seat, at the west end of the loch. So rich is the loch of delicious red-bellied trouts, called Red-wames, that I have seen near 200 taken with one draught of a small net. The lands of Moy were purchased from the Bishop of Moray: and MacIntosh took a new right from Bishop Hepburn in October, 1545 (in the possession of the family of MacIntosh). Above Moy, on that side of the river, are Tomatin, pertaining to a gentleman of the name of MacQueen; Free or Forest, belonging to MacIntosh of Holm; and the lands of Kylachie (all holding of the Earl of Moray), the property of



Alexander MacIntosh of London, merchant, the 9th in descent of the family of Kylachie. Above Kylachie is Invermasran, the property of Kilravock, from the year 1460.

On the north east of the river, in the lower end of the parish is Pollochack, the property of MacQueen of that place. Next up the river is Corebruch, the heritage of MacIntosh of Corebruch; above which is Corebruch MacQueen, the property of Donald MacQueen, chief of that branch of the Clanchattan. Some miles further up is Delmigvie. This was a part of the estate of Westfield, given by Sir Alexander Dunbar, to his son David in 1495, disposed to Campbell of Calder in 1608, and feued by him to Lachlan MacIntosh of Kylachie, in 1614, whose great grandson, Donald MacIntosh, now enjoyeth it. Above Dalmigvie, on both sides of the river, is the Davach of Sevin, which was a part of the castle lands of Inverness (*Vid. Milit. Hist.*), and given by the Earl of Huntley, as a part of the assythment for the murder of MacIntosh in 1550, and it is the property of MacIntosh.

The Church of Moy standeth on the west bank of the Loch of Moy, 3 miles south of Deviot, and 9 miles south west of Ardclach.

[*Moy Hall*, at the head of the loch, is a plain modern house of three storeys, with wings. The present occupant, Capt. Grant, inherited it from his father, James Murray Grant of Glenmorrison. It was indeed an hospitable hall, when Mr. Suter rescued several families in the

terrific flood of 1829. It contains the sword of Viscount Dundee—as also another given by Pope Leo X., to King James V., and by him to the chief of the Clan Chattan.

In recounting the old clan fights as detailed by Sir Robert Gordon—"the Curse of Moy," as preserved in song—and the heroism of its lady and its blacksmith, who saved Prince Charles in 1746—the stranger will have enough to muse on as he hastens by its low and woody shores. Besides the main island, fortress, and parterre, "where many a garden flower still grows wild," there is a small islet of loose stones (said to be artificial) near the southern end of the lake, which formed the chieftain's prison house. A handsome granite obelisk, 70 feet high, on a base of about 20 feet square, has been erected on the largest island to the memory of Sir Eneas Mackintosh, Bart., one of the last chiefs of the clan. On the west side of Loch Moy, are the Church and Manse of the parish; and at the north end, Moy Hall, the principal residence of the chief of Mackintosh, who has erected, hard by, a small but convenient inn.

The story of the exploit of Lady Mackintosh, a daughter of Farquharson of Invercauld, and the blacksmith just alluded to, deserves repetition, as, comparing the means with the end, an instance of almost unparalleled success attending a very simple ruse. On the 16th March, 1746, she received intelligence that Lord Loudon, having learned that Prince Charles was to be entertained that night at Moy Hall by the Lady, who was a staunch Jacobite, though her husband, then absent, exerted himself on behalf of Government, was on his way from Inverness with a body of 1500 men, in hopes of capturing "the Pretender" by surprise. Consulting with Donald Fraser, blacksmith at Moybeg, a shrewd and enterprising man, he, with five other men selected by her, proceeded in the dusk of the evening to a small pass at the Hill of Craigan-Oin, at the boundary between the parishes of Moy and Daviot. Here they ensconced themselves, at intervals of some hundred yards, behind some heaps of peat and turf set up to dry. On the approach of the troops, a command was passed by Donald, and from man to man, in a stentorian voice—"The Mackintoshes, Macgillivrays, and Macbeans to form the centre, the Macdonalds on the right, and the Frasers on the left." A few shots were also



fired, when a soldier of the advance guard was killed. Loudon's imagination, in the twilight, converted the peat hags into armed men, and concluding that the Highland army were drawn up to oppose him, he actually ordered his men to the right about; and not content with making them retrace their steps with all expedition to Inverness, carried them across three arms of the sea all the way to Sutherland. This affair, in which one man almost literally put a thousand to flight, was aptly characterised as *the Rout of Moy*.] (Ed.)

## MOY AND DALAROSSIE.

[*Situation, Soil, Climate.*—This parish, comprehending the sources of the Findhorn, conjoins with Ardclach and Calder on the south and south west. Its greatest length along the course of the river is nearly 30 miles: its mean breadth is about 5. The country is barren, bleak, and mountainous. The cultivated ground, in narrow stripes or small stripes on the banks of the river, exceeds not the 30th part of the parish. The principal source of the Findhorn, at the distance of 50 miles from its termination, is a copious stream, issuing from the fissure of a great rock called "the Cloven Stone." The Gaelic name of the river is the *uisgern*; and, from the length of its course, between high mountains in this parish, it is called *Strathern*: although, from a narrow pass towards Inverness, by which, in the honest times of our more godly ancestors, inroads were made into the low country, and where a few could stop pursuit, its ancient name was *star-sach-na-gaul*, the threshold of the Highlanders. This pass was found then so convenient for the more remote banditti of Badenoch and Strathspey, that, for the free use of it, they agreed to pay the proprietor a tithe of the spoil. The peculiar Gaelic epithet of this honourable acquirement is impressively remembered, signifying "the collop of the prey," which consisted chiefly in cattle. After the district was cleared of wood, and partly cultivated, it obtained the softer appellation of *Moy*, denoting the plain. The greater part of the district under this appellation is a valley, detached in a direction north west from the course of the river, which itself stretches up towards the south west. The modern name of the other district signifies "the valley of Fergus." The soil of the cultivated ground

is for the most part of a very good quality, but the climate is much colder than that of the neighbouring parishes, and the crops later. The snow in general begins to fall by the middle of November, and frequently continues till March or April; but the inhabitants are healthy, and several have attained nearly to the age of 90 years.

*State of Property.*—Moyhall, the family seat of Æneas Mackintosh of Mackintosh, the chieftain of the clan, is valued with the lands of Suffin at £674 13s. 4d. Dr. James Mackintosh of Kylachy, the author of the *Vindiciæ Gal.* inherits Easter Banchar and Wester Strathnoon, valued at £510 6s. 8d. William Mackintosh of Balnespie has Easter Strathnoon and Muckle Corrybrugh, at £276 13s. 4d. Lachlan Mackintosh holds Raigmore, valued at £90. William Mackintosh of Aberairder has Invermasron, at £53 6s. 8d. John Mackintosh possesses Dalmigvie, at £79 10s. Angus Mackintosh of Holm inherits Frae, at £46 13s. 4d. Dugald Macqueen holds Pollockchak, at £50: and Lachlan Macpherson has West Banchar, at £50: extending the whole valuation of the parish to the sum of £2142 10s.

The real rent is about £1000 sterling. Pasturage is the important object. The farms, though of considerable extent, are for the most part let from £5 to £10 of rent: their number is counted about 200. Besides the money rent, each tenant is burdened with the payment of wedders, fowls, eggs, and other articles, and much labour in the digging and carriage of fuel, in reaping the corn, and in carriages to and from distant parts of the country: all which, though noway perceived in the revenue of the proprietor, most effectually check the improvement of the country, and mar all calculation of the value of land. The shortness of the labouring season requires 246 ploughs, each in general drawn by 4 horses, to which 2 oxen are in some cases added. The number of horses is about 900, black cattle, 1800, and sheep 12,000. The rents are paid, and such necessities as the farms do not produce, are provided by the yearly sale of part of the live stock.

*State Ecclesiastical.*—It has been already noticed, that the Presbytery of Inverness was established a separate judicature in the year 1708, into which, in the arrangement of this undertaking, this parish falls to be the first.

Although Moy and Dalarossie in some respects are



unconnected, each having its own Church, they have been under the charge of one pastor since Roman Catholic times. The residence is in Moy, but part of the glebe is 9 miles distant, at the Church of Dalarossie. The stipend is £69 14s. 2d. sterling. The right of patronage appertains to the family of Kilravock. The salary of the school is £8 6s. 8d., and £2 10s. as the fee of the Session-Clerk, which, with the other emoluments, makes the whole establishment about £20 yearly. The poor in general do something for their own support: the annual fund raised, as in the neighbouring parishes, is about £5 sterling. Many depend on begging for their maintenance. There are a few of the inhabitants of the Episcopalian persuasion; but as the whole perform the duties of public worship in the Parish Church, they may be all accounted of the National establishment: their number amounts to 1813 souls.

*Miscellaneous Information.*—In their sentiments the people are extremely wedded to prejudice, and in their manners to old custom. They may perhaps be religious; but it is certain that in one case they preferred sacrifice to mercy. The language, dress, and most of the peculiarities of the ancient Highlanders continue without alteration: their houses are of the same construction with those of their predecessors for many generations, the fire-place near the middle, and the family seated around it. In the stormy season of winter, the severity of the weather arrests all industry in the field: the care of their cattle is almost their only occupation. In the spring, their exertions are great and unremitting till the seed time is over; in the harvest, they are equally diligent in securing their crop before the winter sets in; and the great labour in summer consists in providing the stock of fuel.

The Lake of Moy is somewhat more than a mile in length, and rather less than one in breadth. It abounds in char, and a variety of other trout of various size and colour. Near its middle is an island, [There is a granite Obelisk, 70 ft. high, erected on this islet to the memory of the last of the chiefs—Sir Eneas Mackintosh, Bart.] about 2 acres in extent, nearly in the shape of a violin: on its southern end are the ruins of ancient buildings, of considerable extent: the remains of a street, the whole length of the island, and the foundations of houses on each

side, are readily distinguishable. In the year 1762, two ovens were discovered, each capable of baking 150 lb. avoirdupois of meal. In the year 1422 it contained a garrison of 400 men, and here the chief of Mackintosh resided, except during the winter, when the country was inaccessible. The walls of a more modern building remain pretty entire: an Inscription over the gate imports, that it was built in 1655 by Lachlan, the 20th chieftain of the clan. The garden, stocked with fruit trees and bushes, is still in cultivation.

At the distance of several hundred yards, is another small island, formed by the accumulation of common rounded stone. It was the prison, when the punishment of malefactors was vested in the Chiefs. The miserable prisoner could scarcely stand with dry feet when the lake was at the lowest; but in the season of rain, if the surface was then no higher than now, the water rose nearly to its middle; but within the space of 24 hours he was condemned or set free.

Near the north end of the Lake, there is a chalybeate spring, accounted medicinal for headaches and disorders in the stomach. There is a considerable extent of natural wood, chiefly birch and aller, upon the banks of the Findhorn.] (*Survey of the Province of Moray.*)

[Moy and Dalarassie (says Shaw) are united parishes. The latter is probably the Church of "Dalgergussyn in Stratherne," which Bishop Andrew confirmed to the Church of the Holy Trinity of Elgin, about 1224-42 (*Reg. Epis. Morav.* 71.) It stood near Moy, and under the name of *Tallaracie*, it appears as one of the mensal churches. The teinds of the parish of Moy were confirmed to the Church of the Pope in 1222, and the Church "de Moy" (*Theiner*) is rated at 8s. 9d. in the taxation of 1275. In the taxation of the diocese, about 1350, the Prebend of Moy is rated at 10 merks. In 1574, George Simson was "reidare at Moy," and the minister bore the same surname. Simson's predecessor in the Kirk of Moy was Sir Wm. Sutherland (*Sir* being a title of courtesy for Churchmen in old times); but Sutherland's profession and practice of "morality" seems to have had little in common; for he not only "disobeyed" the charge of the Commissioner of the Church who had ordained him to



"marie the woman" with whom he had been cohabiting; but, "in despyte of the said Commissioner [he had] ryven his letters of charge thereto."

In consequence of this disrespect to his brethren, and his non-appearance at the bar of the Assembly, he was, in 1564, deprived of all ecclesiastical functions by the General Assembly. (*Book of the Universal Kirk*, 51.)

The chief object of antiquarian interest in the united parishes is probably the sculptured Stone which was found by the workmen in digging the foundations of the present Parish Church of Dyke. It exhibits what are known as the Spectacle and Elephant figures; also a curiously interlaced Cross and other carvings. It stands within the Park of Brodie Castle, and is engraved in Stuart's *Sculptured Stones of Scotland*, vol. 1., Plate xxii.

As stated before, the Churches of Dyke and Moy were united in 1618. The latter stood near the north-west corner of the Burial-ground, and in the vicinity of Moy Hall. The Grave-yard is surrounded by fine specimens of ash and plane trees.

#### EPITAPHS IN THE CHURCHYARD OF MOY.

Some tombstones lie upon the site of the Kirk; also the nicely-dressed top of a lancet window, which had probably belonged to the old Church.

I. One of two Slabs, which exhibits the Campbell and Morison arms impaled, is initialed M. I. C.: J. M.; and the other (broken in two pieces), bears the Campbell and Barclay arms, also the initials, M. I. C.: C. B.

The Stones had probably been upon the Burial-aisles of the Campbells, who were lairds of Moy. Both Slabs belong to the 17th century, and may refer to John Campbell, Sheriff-Clerk of Aberdeen, and his grandfather, to the latter of whom the former was served heir "in the Eister tua parcialis of land callit the Kirklands of Moy," &c., April 27, 1654. On the 9th Aug., 1684, "Mr. John Campbell of Moy and his wiffe were heir [at Brodie], and his goodson, and daughter." (*Brodie's Diary*, 495.)

The Cawdor family were the first of the Campbells of Moy; and, in 1527, Robert Campbell in Moy is a witness to a bond betwixt Sir John Campbell of Cawdor and Mr. M'Intosh of Clanchattan. (*Thanes of Cawdor*, p. 150.)

II. The property of Culbin was bought from the family of Kinnaird by Alex. Duff of Drummur, who gave it to his second son, John, whose first wife was Miss Gordon of Ellon. She died in 1728; and his second wife, Helen Gordon (a daughter of Sir James Gordon of Park), died in 1767.

The following Inscription (from a Slab upon the site of the old Kirk of Moy), probably refers to a daughter by the latter lady:—

Below this Stone lyes the Body of Helen Duff, Daughter to John Duff of Cubin, and Helen Gordon, his Spouse, who departed this life the 26 November . . .

Baird of Auchmedden, in his *Genealogical Memoirs of the Duffs*, says that "John Duff of Cowbin was a good, friendly, honest man, but unhappily fell into acquaintance with MacKay of Scoury and his brother, from the Shire of Ross, who did not indeed deserve the name of gentlemen. They got him engaged in a trade to North America, and the honest gentleman was in a few years ruined, and everybody was convinced that he had been egregiously imposed upon by the MacKays."

III. The following Inscription preserves the name of a laird of Grangehill (now Dalvey), which is not given in the History of the Inneses:—

Here lyes a godly and most charitable woman, Agnis Innes, Daughter to the Laird of Granghill, Married to Peter Dunbar of Easter Bn, and four of ther children. Therafter to M. Robert Dunbar and four of ther children.

Rev. 14. 13, Blessed are the dead, &c.

And also the forsaid M. Robert Dunbar. 1707.

Peter Dunbar was served heir to his father, John Dunbar of Binns, 17 June, 1693, in part of the lands of Nether and Upper Binns, &c. It was about 1608 that Mark Dunbar of Durris bought Grangehill from Lord Dunfermline, who was Commendator of the Abbey of Pluscardine, of which the Dunbars of Durris were heritable bailies.

IV. From a flat Slab:—

This Stone is placed here in memory of ROBERT RAIT, burges of Forres, 1728, who died Nove. the 9th, 175—, aged 70, and ELIZABETH SINCLAIR, his spouse. for a day in courts



is better than a thousand. I had rather be a door-keeper in the house of the Lord my God than to dwell in tents of wickedness. *Memento Mori.*

The next three Inscriptions are from Table-Stones :—

V. Erected by Susanna Blaik, relict of ROBERT BLUNTACH, an elder of Dyke Session, in memory of her lamented husband, and affectionate mother, JEAN WALKER, of Pitsligo Parish, both heir buried under this stone, both aged 81 years.

John's Gos. xv. Ps. 103.

VI. This stone is placed here in memory of PETER COUPER in Kintessack, and his spouse MARJORY GORDON, as also their children, Margaret and Jean, who died in infancy. Marjory Gordon dyed the 26 of May 1732, and Peter Couper dyed the 14 of April 1737.

G. C.: I. F

Blessed are the dead, &c.

VII. This stone is erected here by Wm. M'Kay, merchant, Nairn, in memory of his grandfather, John, and his father, Alex. M'Kay, who died August the 21st, 1780, aged 31 years; as also William M'Kay, his uncle, who left few such behind him, who died Feb. 3, 1799, aged 61 years, honoured in his humble station, to be eminently useful. His praise was in the Gospel. His reward is with God.

VIII. The following is the oldest of several Inscriptions to a family named Suter :—

This stone is placed here by Alex. Suter, farmer in Marcasie, and Ann Squer, spouse to the said Alex. Suter, and in memory of JOHN SUTER, his father, sometime tenant in Earnhill, who died Dec. 30, aged 47 years, and MARY DUNBAR, his spouse.

These were ancestors of Mr. Suter, who rendered so much valuable assistance to the cottagers in and about the Broom of Moy during the great floods in August, 1829.

The hamlet of the Brown of Moy (? *Magh*, a plain), consists of some picturesque dwellings, and is the landing-place for one of "the ferry-cobbles" on the Findhorn.] (*Jervise's Epitaphs.*)

Having travelled over the valley of Strathern, I return to the coast to describe

## DYKE PARISH.

The parish of Dyke and Moy, which is 3 miles in length and as much in breadth, is bounded by the river to the east, by the sea to the north, by Aldern parish to the west, and by the Forest of Tarnua to the south.

The Church standeth near the centre, 2 miles west of Forres, and 4 miles east of Aldearn. At the mouth of the river is the barony of Caulbin, the ancient inheritance of a branch of Moray of Duffus. Giles, daughter and heiress of Moray of Caulbin [Culbin], married Kinnaird of that ilk. About the year 1705 the house, gardens, and a great part of the lands, were quite covered with sand blown from Mavieston hills, and the barony was sold to Alexander Duff of Drummuir. Next up the river is Kincorth, formerly pertaining to Falconer of Lethin, and given by Alexander of Lethin and Hawkerton to his natural son, Mr. Samuel Falconer (father of Mr. William, minister of Dyke), who sold it to Dunbar of Durn; and Durn sold it, in 1758, to Sir Alexander Grant of Dalvey. Farther up is Easter Moy. This was purchased from the Earl of Ross by Donald, Thane of Calder, anno 1410 (in the possession of the family of Calder). It was the heritage of a branch of the family of Calder during six generations; and John Campbell of Moy sold it to Alex. Dunbar, son of Westfield, whose son, Ludovick,



disponed it to Alexander Duff of Drummuir, who conveyed Moy and Caulbin to his second son, John Duff, and from his creditors Major George Grant made the purchase about 1732; upon whose death in 1755, without issue, these lands came to his nephew, Sir Ludowick Grant of Grant. Moy holdeth of Calder. Next is Wester Moy, pertaining to the late Archibald Dunbar of Dykeside, Farther south is the barony of Grange Hill. Here the Prior of Pluscarden had a Grangier, or farm, and a cell of monks to manage it. With the other lands of that Priory, it came to the Earl of Dunfermline, who sold it to Mark Dunbar of Durris about the year 1608, from whose descendants Sir Alexander Grant of Dalvey purchased the barony, anno 1740, and in his charter changed the name Grangehill into Dalvey.

In the south end of the parish is Tarnua Castle and Forest, the seat of the Earl of Moray. The Castle is a large but irregular pile, built at different times. The hall is a curious room, very large in all dimensions, 80 feet long and 36 broad, and built (or rather the foundation of it was laid for a hunting-house) by Thomas Randolph, Earl of Moray. It standeth on a green mount, and the great wood or forest close by it makes it a situation romantic and delightful. In ancient writs it is called *Tarnua*; in Irish *Taranich*, probably from *Taran* or *Tarnach*, i.e., thunder, because

there Jupiter Taranis might have been anciently worshipped (*See Eccles. Hist.*)

North from Tarnua is the barony of Brodie. Brodie House, the seat of the family, is a large and convenient old building. The improvements, by enclosures, planting, avenues, vistas through the adjacent wood, and a large pond, make it a delightful seat.

A mile north-west, close by the firth, are two small pyramidical mounts, called the Hills of Mavieston, which, being quite stripped of all sward or turf, and nothing but quick-sand remaining, are the sources from whence the sand has covered much land in Culbin, Duffus, and Gordonstoun.

#### DYKE.

[*Situation, Soil, Climate.*—The arrangement of the parishes in the Presbytery of Forres makes a short excursion southwards into the mountain, and returns back by the west towards the shore of the Firth. The southern quarter of the parish of Dyke borders on the northern limits of the parish of Edinkielie, on the confines of the forest of Darnway. From this it stretches eastward along the River of Findern, and partly on the southern bank, by the shifting of its course in former times. The old bar, at its efflux appertaining to the parish of Kinloss, has been already noticed. The Firth, however, may be regarded as its boundary for the space of 6 miles upon the north, till it meets the parish of Auldearn, from which it is separated by a brook, the *Ellands Bourn*, and the moors called the Hardmoor and Broadshaw, which run across the western limit of the county of Moray, bordering on the county of Nairn, till it again joins the parish of Edinkielie at the south. The latitude, by an observation taken lately at the shore, is 57° 36' 21" north.

The soil of the cultivated ground is for the greater part



a light fertile loam, generally incumbent on sand, and not very retentive of moisture. In some places the sole is sand, concreted by some mineral substance, water probably surcharged by iron ore. In ploughing it is avoided, as adverse to vegetation when mingled with the soil. The whole superficies of the parish contains 21 square miles, one half of which is a desert tract of drifting sand along the shore. The land side of this tract is bounded by a pretty high bank, which may be traced westward nearly to Inverness, as if the sea had once flowed out to its bottom, and which still seems in this quarter to have limited the overspreading of the sand. An irregular tract of sterile moor spreads along the margin of this bank, the soil of which having been carried off in turf the naked gravel remains, soliciting to be clothed by plantation, of which at present it exhibits some hopeful specimens. Three brooks unite near the Church, forming a considerable stream, which winds through the middle of the country, nearly parallel to the river. The air is healthful and dry, and the climate so genial that the more delicate kinds of fruit, the apricot and peach, ripen on a wall in the open air.

*State of Property.*—Darnaway, the Earl of Moray's seat in this quarter of the kingdom, is an ancient and magnificent edifice, though built in different ages, and in divers forms. The original fabric at the first consisted only of one hall, 89 feet in length, and 35 in breadth. Its walls rose nearly to the height of 32 feet—a range of vaults, constructed for cellars on its floor, has lowered its internal elevation to 20. Its roof of solid oak, similar to the Guildhall of London and the Parliament House of Edinburgh, remaining unceiled, displays the strength of the workmanship of the 14th century, for it was built by Randolph, the Regent of Scotland in the minority of David Bruce. Part of its original furniture yet remains. Earl Randolph's chair of state, similar in workmanship and form to the Coronation-chair of the monarchs of Britain, 60 lbs. weight of oak, decorated with no very elegant carving, part of the coat armorial. Coeval with the chair, the table also, of the same kind of timber, remains. The modern fashion of folding down the leaves upon the pillars was then unknown—a device more complicated served the same purpose. From one end a leaf

may be drawn out equal to the length of the upper board, which is a quadrangle, supported on 6 massive columns. This hall was only intended for the temporary accommodation of hunting quarters. Tradition relates that its whole floor was deeply littered with green rushes, or grass, at night; and the Earl with all his suite reposed thereon together. Numerous apartments have since been added, several of them fitted up and furnished with all the elegance of modern fashion. The Castle rises on a green mount in the skirt of the forest. It commands a very extensive and pleasant landscape, and its environs are embellished by groves and gardens, and much ornamented cultivation. Its name has been with some ingenuity interpreted from the Gaelic to be Randolph's Mount, *tor-rannich*, but as *rannich* in that language signifies *fern*, and as that herb still maintains its place in vast quantity over all the forest, its appellation seems rather more simply to denote the *fern hill*. The original name of the district also was Fernway; and it is also highly probable that the Bridge of Rannoch, a little farther up in the forest, long supposed to bear the proud title of its ancient lord, ought also to be reduced to its more suitable relation to the humble weed, overhanging the banks which it but artlessly conjoined. By the Cess-Book of the county the valued rent of this domain within the parish is stated at £913 13s. 10d.; but of this the sum of £39 is apportioned on lands in the parish of Edinkielie.

Northward from Darnaway is the seat of James Brodie of Brodie, Esq., the residence of the family for 600 years. The fabric is a great building, not modern, yet displaying all the elegant accommodation of the present fashion. It rises on a green lawn in a pretty extensive park. A little lake, shaped into an artificial pond, is commanded by the front; a great extent of full-grown wood, in all the variety of the forest, rises on every side; long straight avenues stretch under its shade; and square inclosures under the best cultivation bask in its shelter.

[The present castellated Mansion has over the door the initials of the present proprietor and his spouse, W.B. and E.L.B., with the date 1846. The Brodie coat of arms are on the right.

At the north end of the park stands a Stone, which was brought here from the Churchyard of Dyke at the erection



of the present Parish Kirk. It is a parallelogram about 6 feet high, having an elaborately carved Cross, with some rudely-sculptured animals, but no date nor inscription. It is said to commemorate Rodney's victory over the Count de Grasse.]

The valued rent in this parish is £1,263 6d. Scots.

Eastward is the ancient barony of Grangehill, originally appertaining to the Priory of Pluscarden, where a detachment of their brotherhood resided. Its name by a late owner was changed into Dalvey, signifying in the Gaelic, *the Plain of Spey*. It appertains to Captain Macleod. Its valued rent extends to £1,174 15s. 8d. Northward is the estate of Kincorth, the property of George Grant, Esq., embellished by a modern handsome manor-house. The valuation amounts to £371 10s. 6d. Binsness, valued at £195 8s. 7d., is said to have been lately acquired by Lord Kinnaird, with the salmon fisheries both in the river and in the salt water, valued at the yearly rent of £500 sterling. The rest of the parish appertains to Col. Hugh Grant. The family seat at Moy is a magnificent modern structure, embellished by gardens, groves, shrubbery, and walks; also a princely suite of farm offices, adorned by a spire and public clock; a highly cultivated Manor spreads over the plain along the bank of the river. The valued rent paying cess in the county of Moray amounts to £1,755 17s. 5d. Scots, extending the valuation of the parish to the sum of £5,674 6s. 6d. Scots. But the lands of Easter Moy, amounting to the valued rent of £218 10s. 6d., are under the jurisdiction of the Sheriffdom of Nairn, though distant from the borders of that county; but having been in the possession of the ancestors of Lord Cawdor, when hereditary Sheriffs of Nairn, this portion of the domain would have occasionally subjected their haughty independence to the Court of the Sheriff of Moray had not this accommodation to the prejudices of the feudal times been devised. Many places, politically insulated, on the same account, remain both in England and in Scotland; and the inconveniences which this occasions in the administration of civil justice in its present establishment have been hitherto wholly overlooked.

But this political evil becomes of no consideration when one physical calamity in this parish, of ghastly nature and enormous size, is taken into contemplation—

the astonishing superinduction of sand, by which the fertile and populous barony of Culbin has been reduced to a state of absolute and irremediable sterility. It pays the land tax in the county of Moray, answering to its valued rent of £913 18s. 4d. Scots. Though included in Colonel Grant of Moy's valued rent, it is the property of his nephew, Mr. Grant of Redcastle, whom it qualifies to be elected to represent the county in Parliament.

Those astonishing mounds of sand, raised along the whole coast of the parish, although no doubt produced by the sea, and probably by its encroachments on the shores nearer the head of the Firth, have not acquired their form under the action of the water. They are not composed of different strata, or beds, and they have no mixture of pebbles, sea-weed, or shells; but they are immense accumulations of pure washed white sand, of the smallest texture, having their situation, bulk, and form, determined only by the wind. The smallest particles, though the first that are suspended, are the last which are deposited by the water, and thereby exposed to the power of the wind, while pebbles, shells, and heavier sand, remain upon the beach.

Extraordinary commotions, from various causes, have been sometimes excited in the German Ocean. They have been strongly felt upon the coast of Holland when they had also risen high upon the whole length of our eastern shore, from the banks of the Thames to the Pentland Firth. One striking example needs be only adduced. By the commotion which the Lisbon earthquake in 1755 excited, although so far distant on the west and opposite side of the island, a flock of sheep of this parish were drowned in their cot, though far beyond the reach of any ordinary tide.

The wide expanse of the Moray Firth, at its termination between the shore of Caithness and the coasts of Aberdeen, opens the access to a heavier inundation from the ocean, and the bold shore upon the northern side rolls it large upon the Moray coast, which is uncommonly flat to the westward of Burghead, as the vast swell from the ocean is impelled along the contracting channel of the Firth: and some dreadful commotion, both of the land and water, it must have been, which amassed the ample shore for such a ruinous accumulation.



The time in which this dismal visitation first began has almost escaped the notice of particular record; yet general history affords several intimations of storms and inundations, which might have been the remote cause of this perpetual devastation.

It has been already noticed, that the inundation which submerged the princely fortune of Earl Goodwin, on the coast of Kent, must have raised a dreadful commotion in all the estuaries on the eastern side of the island, and shaken the whole coast from the one end to the other. The era of this desolation coincided with the reign of Rufus in England, and Canmore in Scotland, towards the end of the 11th century. Dr. Trussler's Chronology specifies the year 1100 as the epoch of the Goodwin Sands. Fordun and Buchanan, it has been already shown, mention inundations, and devastations by sand, in this kingdom, alarmingly astonishing, about the period for which Trussler marks for this similar visitation upon the English shore. Respecting the year, Buchanan is not particular, but speaks in general of the prodigies of that age: but Boethius particularly conjoins the inundation with the year of Canmore's death, namely 1097, within three years of the date which Trussler has set down; and he expressly relates, that its ravages were desolation on the coast of Moray, of which county, it is obvious, the ideas of Buchanan were extremely indistinct.

"The death of Malcolm," says Boethius, "happened on the ides of October, in the year of our redemption 1097, and in the 37th year of his reign; and in the same year Albion was terrified by many most alarming prodigies. Many villages, castles, towns, and extensive woods, both in England and in Scotland, were overwhelmed by an exundation of the German Ocean, by the weight of which tempest, the lands of Gudowine, near the mouth of the Thames, which we have formerly mentioned, were overwhelmed by sand; and likewise the land of Moray in Scotland was at that time desolated by the sea, castles subverted from the foundation, some towns destroyed, and the labours of men laid waste, by the discharge of sand from the sea: monstrous thunders also roaring, horrible and vast!"

To this it may be added, that in the *Scotichronicon*, book 7th, chap. 50, Fordun mentions a Comet, to the influence

of which he ascribes the excesses of these waters. "The order of the Trinity," says he, "was instituted in the year 1097. In that same year, the 41st of the Emperor Henry IV. a Comet appeared in the west from the 1st of October: the sowing of winter grain is prevented (*aquarum nimia inundatione*) by excessive inundations of water, and a failure of the crop ensues."

In the Advocates' Library, it is also said, the Records of the Priory of Pluscarden, called the *Red Book*, are still preserved; in which it is recorded that the whole low country of Moray was deluged by the sea in the year 1010. If there be an error by misplacing the two middle numbers, this date accurately coincides with the period about which Fordun, Boethius, Trussler, and even Buchanan, have all so nearly agreed.

It must therefore be allowed, that inundations of the most destructive magnitude did happen towards the close of the eleventh century. What their effect upon the coast of Dyke may have particularly been, lies beyond the reach even of conjecture, farther than that they extended not so far as the sand has now spread; for even in the last century, the northern quarter of the parish, including the barony of Culbin, was distinguished as "the granary of Moray." Cultivation, therefore, was long continued, and it is likely that, when only a little sand had been deposited, the fertility of the ground would be thereby increased. But this vast magazine, which, it is conjectured, the waves may have produced, by washing off the cape which gave the name to Inverness, and the promontory from the point of Arderier, has been accumulated somehow into the Mavistown hills, on the eastern borders of the parish of Auldearn. From thence they began to drift over the nearest fields of Culbin, in the tract of the south-west wind; and even the greater part of these singular mounds themselves have migrated from Auldearn into Dyke, the heavier sand, when moved by the gale, settling upon the lee side. The encroachments have been every year gradually extended, the rents paid in victual proportionally reduced, the tenants one after another, and the landlord, with their families, mournfully expelled, and their habitations and possessions covered up, it is supposed, to the height of the trees of the gardens about the manor. The desolation must have been completed prior to the year



1695, as by the narrative of the Act of Parliament then made to prevent the pulling of bent, "the barony of Culbin, and house and yards therof, is quite ruined, and overspread with sand." The farm of Earnhill, a corner of the estate without the tract of the sand, accommodated for some time the proprietor, which now alone remains, scarcely yielding a rent of £80, of an estate which otherwise, at this time, would have produced more than £1000.

Although little farther damage in this quarter needs be apprehended, yet the whole body of the sand is uniformly progressive from the west, being little affected by the wind from any other quarter. About 20 years ago, a March-stone was placed on one of the sand hills, about 40 feet in height, that it might be the more conspicuous; and it was then conjectured, that the stone would either bury itself, by sinking in the hill, or that the hill would rise over it. The stone however kept its place: the hill, moving off, left it on the plain. That the sand is therefore blown into the Bay of Findhorn in considerable quantities, admits of no doubt, as part of it by every strong gale is carried quite across the water: but whether it be borne eastward by the tide, to be deposited on some other shore, or only washed back again in perennial alternate succession upon its own coast, may be perhaps in another century discovered.

The real rent of the parish, including that of the fisheries, and the value of the grounds about the seats of the proprietors, may be stated at £3000. The number of acres under cultivation amounts to 2697, and the natural and planted wood occupies 1191. There are several farms of considerable extent, from £60 to upwards of £100 of rent; more than half the parish may be occupied in smaller possessions, from £5 to £20 of rent. The average rent upon the acre may be estimated at 18s.: but at the village of Dyke, it is let at £2 the acre. The number of every kind of horses may be 384; black cattle, 1047; sheep, 1533, of the small white-faced breed; and there may at times be about 40 hogs of swine: the particular numbers however are by no means permanent.

*State Ecclesiastical.*—In the year 1618 the parishes of Moy and Dyke were conjoined, and the residence and Church then fixed at Dyke, a Gaelic word, signifying an enclosure, also, an artificial course for a stream of water.

The glebe at Moy is let by the incumbent to the proprietor, at 6 bolls of barley; and the burying-ground is still in occupation. The Church was rebuilt in the year 1781, a handsome commodious structure, neatly finished and furnished at the expense of £525, exclusive of the carriage of the materials.

The value of the living, including the allowance for the Communion, and £1 13s. 4d. paid for the pasturage which the law annexes to the glebe, is £48 8s. 6d. sterling, 106 bolls 1 firiot barley, and  $7\frac{1}{2}$  bolls of oatmeal. The right of patronage is divided between the Crown and the proprietor of Moy.

The school is in the vicinity of the Church. The salary is £2 15s. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 16 bolls of bear, with the customary fees from about 40 scholars, and £1 as the fee with the perquisites of the office of Session-Clerk, makes the establishment equal to about £33 yearly.

John Anderson, Esq., Writer to the Signet, in the year 1702, bequeathed a capital for the establishment of a school for girls, which, with an addition of £27 15s. 6d. sterling from the proprietor of Brodie, who built the school house of two storeys, and endowed it with a little garden, makes the salary equal to £6 18s. 10d. sterling. This appointment is under the charge of the proprietors of the parish and the session: but the building is at present fallen almost into a state of irreparable decay.

The number of poor amounts to 61. The provision contributed by the people, chiefly at their meetings for social worship, amounts to about £25 sterling yearly. To this sum, the Rev. William Falconer, senior, proprietor of Kincorth, and Minister of Dyke to the year 1674, destined an annual allowance of 3 bolls bear, valued about £2 14s. secured on the rent of a croft. Mr. Henry Vass also, servant to Major Grant of Moy, destined the capital of £100 sterling to 12 poor children. Mr. Vass also made a donation to the infirmity hospitals of Edinburgh and Aberdeen, in order to entitle the session to send patients to either of these endowments.

The members of the Established Church are 1490; the Dissenters, mostly of the Antiburgher sect of Seceders, are 39.

*Miscellaneous Information.*—This parish is distinguished by affording the scene of the main spring of the



drama of the tragedy of Macbeth. It was on the Hardmoor, on the western side of the park of Brodie House, where Macbeth and Banquo, returning victorious from an expedition in the western isles to wait on King Duncan, then in the Castle of Forres, and on a journey to Inverness, are represented to have been saluted by the weird sisterhood. It may be observed that by introducing Hecate, and blending an heathen with a Christian superstition, Shakespeare shows that he himself had no belief in either; that he considered King James's book on Demonology, reprinted about that time at London, as sillily absurd; and those Acts of Parliament which condemned poor old women to be burnt to death for working miracles, as abominably cruel, and desperately wicked.

In digging out the foundation for the Church, an earthen pot, with silver coins to the value in bullion of £46 sterling, was found. By Anderson's Numismata Scotiae, they were discovered to be 4d. pieces; they were all of equal size, and very fine silver, larger than a sixpence, but very thin. They had been stamped in different places both in Scotland and England, in the contemporary reigns of Henry II. and William the Lion. Some of the oldest, struck at Striveling, bore on one side RE VILLIAM, the Gaelic for King William.

The people are decent, peaceful, and well affected to the national religion and government: they are little addicted either to a seafaring or military life: they live poorly, that they may dress neatly; but few attempt to save money.

Grain is annually disposed of in considerable quantities, oats chiefly and barley, sometimes wheat. Old oxen and dry cows are sold off for the English graziers. When young oxen and milch cows can be sent to market, they always sell at a great price. The spinning of flax, formerly of great consideration, may still bring into the parish about £300 yearly. The management of the salmon has been already noticed in the trade of Findhorn. A kit generally contains 3 salmon, about 10 lb. each. Considerable quantities of cod fish are caught by the boats of Findhorn and Nairn, more abundantly at that season which does not admit of their being dried in the open air. A quantity was cured in barrels like salted salmon, and tried, from this parish, in the London market; the sale was not

such as to encourage the continuance of the trade. It has been suggested, that if they were boiled in vinegar, like kitted salmon, they might find a brisker market.

A considerable number of seals frequent the coast. One man killed 130 in a year; the oil and skin of each brought 4s. This fishery is an object of the greater importance, because the seal both prey upon the salmon and frighten them off the coast.

A market of wood has been lately established. One of the proprietors has disposed of a plantation to be felled in 7 years, at the rate of £100 yearly; and the ground is to be again planted as soon as the whole is cleared. He has a similar plantation in equal forwardness, and several rising in succession. The larger allers are employed in the construction of boats and small vessels: birch is made up into the cheapest kinds of agricultural utensils: the ash, the elm, beech, and plane, with a few oaks, that can be spared, are shipped off at Findhorn: and the fir, manufactured into deals, and timber for the roofing of houses, begins to find its way to the same port.] (*Survey of the Province of Moray.*)

#### CULBIN.

[Most persons on going from Elgin to Forres, either by rail or by the public road, have their attention generally attracted to an immense number of large, bare sand-hills lying away down on the shore of the Moray Firth. These are the sand-hills of Culbin. When seen from any point along either of the lines which we have indicated they present a dreary and sterile aspect, and one is ready to conclude, without making a nearer approach to them, that they must form, altogether, a scene of extreme dreariness and desolation. A distant view of them, however, gives but a very faint idea of their great magnitude, or of the immense extent of ground which they occupy. It is only when you have entered among them and traversed the length and breadth of the ground which they cover, and climbed to their summits, that a knowledge of their true character is obtained.

Many of the mounds are 120 feet in height, and measure along the base 440 yards in length and 220 in breadth. The sand is scarcely ever at rest, and hills of sand, 100 feet in height, are frequently found to change their



appearance altogether in a single night. The changes are very rapid if there be any westerly winds.

The shifting nature of the sand may be understood from the following circumstances:—In the heydays of smuggling, a foreign vessel visited the coast, and, during the night, landed a valuable cargo of contraband goods on the back shore. As the owners had not at the time the means of conveying them to their destination, it was resolved to stow them away under the slope of one of the great sand-hills until the party had time to collect their forces. This was successfully accomplished. Unfortunately for them, a strong westerly wind sprung up in the night time, and continued without the least abatement during part of the following day. On the evening of that day the owners returned, accompanied by a number of carts, never for a moment imagining that there could be the smallest difficulty in finding the goods. Whether they found the exact sand-hill in which the goods had been deposited has never been ascertained; but when the men reached the slope where they thought they had placed them, they felt themselves in a complete quandary. The goods were to be found nowhere. A few men had been sent there, hours before, to have matters arranged; but they had traversed the ground again and again, and even trenched the sand in numerous places, and still not a single trace of them could be seen. So bewildered were the men on account of the sand having shifted and obliterated every mark of their movements on the previous night, that it became a question among them which of the sand-hills contained the missing treasure. When the circumstance became generally known, the carters, and others connected with the affair, bestirred themselves, and spread about in all directions in search of the goods. As an encouragement to them, the moon shone brightly and made every object visible for a great way around. At this time men were seen everywhere searching for the lost treasure. Some were probing the sand with their whip-shafts, others were busily sounding its depth with their hands, while not a few, with spade and shovel, were casting deep trenches in the sides of the sand-hills. The whole night was spent in the search, and after night the day, and many succeeding days, but it proved all labour in vain. The valuable cargo of brandy and tobacco lay

snugly under some deep sand-drift, and up to the present time not the slightest trace of either has been seen.

On my first visit to the sand-hills of Culbin the weather was very mild, and of course, down there, exceedingly close and warm. On hearing from the people of the district of the extraordinary appearance which these hills presented during a westerly gale, I felt most anxious to see them in their wildest aspect. Fortunately, on the day on which a strong westerly gale prevailed, I had an opportunity of visiting them. On entering among them the wind was tremendous, and as it came rushing down through the openings between the hills, carrying with it immense torrents of sand, its force and violence were almost overpowering. Clouds of sand were also continually falling from the tops of the mounds, and whirling about in the wildest confusion. Nothing could be seen but sand above, and sand below, and sand everywhere. The place soon became very uncomfortable, and after having passed about an hour, groping my way along the base of the great sand hills, I deemed it prudent to return, lest I should get bewildered.

On my return through one of those gorges or openings to which I have already alluded, I felt the wind much fiercer than when I passed. The sand seemed to come in waves, which had a sensible weight, and the force with which they were driven made it somewhat difficult to withstand them. I was more than once like to be carried off my feet. On approaching the last great sand-hill, nearest Kincorth, the wind poured down through the hollow as if it had been blowing through a funnel. The quantity of sand drifted along must have been immense. I caught it in handfuls as it passed. When nearing the gorge the wind had acquired a rotatory motion, and the sand, following the movement, drifted about and lashed me at times with some severity, as if it were done intentionally and for a purpose. When under the lee of the hill the force of the wind was a good deal broken, but the sand came pouring down in torrents, and sometimes in masses, from the heights above. These, by being again broken and whirled about in all directions, had a most bewildering effect. Moving onwards, with my eyes shut, like one blindfold—for no man in his sober senses would venture to open his eyes at such a time unless he wished



to have them sacrificed—I expected that the worst would soon be past, and that I should be able to grope my way at leisure out of this horrible place, but the moment I got beyond the shelter of the sand-hill I was met by such a powerful blast of wind that came sweeping round the corner of the hill as seemed to be a work altogether beyond the common operations of nature. So violent and tormenting were these attacks that I could not help thinking that the furies must have leagued together to punish me for entering upon their domains. Whether the furies took a part in the affair or not I am not prepared to affirm, but, on coming out of that gorge, I felt as if a dozen thongs were lashing me with great force round the body, and I actually felt as if the points of them had reached upwards and were twitching my face. Ropes of sand are generally spoken of with a degree of contempt, but really, when they operate like the thongs of Culbin, they are not to be despised.

No sooner had I got beyond the fierce influence of the sand-drift than I felt something about me which was quite unaccountable, and which, for a time, made me exceedingly uncomfortable, and even qualmish. I felt a pressure and weight on my body which had the effect of dragging me down and retarding my progress, as if the power of gravitation had been increased tenfold. Certain dubious thoughts flashed quickly across the mind, and for a moment I stood like one petrified. At the same time I felt a burst of perspiration starting from every pore, and in less than a minute my whole body was suffused with moisture. What is the meaning of this? was the question I put to myself; and while in the midst of my perplexity I put my hand into my pocket in search of my pocket handkerchief to wipe away the big drops which trickled down my face, I found my pocket crammed with sand. I tried another, it was equally filled. Every pocket about me was filled with sand, and my clothes were completely saturated with it, and my shoes were like to burst, and my eyes, my ears, my nostrils, and my mouth were all partakers, more or less of it. On moving about, I observed the minute particles of sand pouring from my clothes as thick as when a drizzling rain falls from a summer cloud. In short, I felt myself to be nearly altogether a man of sand.

The loneliness of the place is often extremely distressing. At other times one is filled with interest as you notice the numerous examples of sand-ripple arranged in all the order and regularity that you see displayed by the sands on the shore.

Shingle beaches are found below the general level of the sand—remains these of ancient sea-beaches. But you will speedily see something else.

On leaving these beaches and crossing a ridge of sand, you perceive, towards the east, a tract of low ground stretching away between two large sand hills. Of course you conclude that this is another series of sea-beaches, and as you feel a desire to see in what respect they will present themselves, you move down upon them, plodding your way over a tract of recently drifted sand, in which you sink to the knees at every step. When you reach the edge of this piece of ground, you feel greatly surprised. Instead of a series of sea-beaches, you see before you a large tract of the old fertile lands of Culbin. For some time you stand like a statue, quite absorbed with reflections on the past. You look around and you see the big ghostly sand hills towering upwards on either side. What ruin! What desolation! On this rich loamy field the husbandman had no doubt driven his team with a merry heart, sowed his seed, and in due time reaped a plentiful harvest. The hearty laugh of the reapers has been heard ringing merrily across this field; and wanton herds have fed luxuriantly on the rich herbage; now, there is not so much as a single blade of grass to be seen on any part of the ground.

The view is most extensive, ranging from Mealfour-vonie, on the Ness, to the Binhill in Banffshire.

The estate of Culbin is invested with a melancholy interest. About 200 years ago it was one of the richest and most fertile districts in Moray. In the days of its prosperity it was designated "the Granary of Moray," and not unfrequently "the Giral of Moray." This term was applied to it, not merely on account of the great fertility of the soil, but as indicating the delightfulness of the climate, and the earliness of the crops, and the unfailing resources of the district, even when there was a partial failure in other parts of the country, occasioned by the lateness of the harvest and the setting in of early frosts.



All the cultivated land on the estate was of a deep, rich, alluvial soil, being the accumulation, for ages, of the fine silt carried down the Findhorn in time of floods, and spread over a wide extent of country, when it and the neighbouring low lands formed the basin of a large shallow bay. The lands of Moy, and of several other fertile estates lying on either side of the river Findhorn, consist of accumulations of this kind. The extent of arable land on the estate of Culbin is difficult to be ascertained at the present day. It contained a number of small farms, besides the home farm, which was always kept in the hands of the family. There were also many small crofts occupied by families who derived great part of their living by fishing. There was also an extensive range of good pasture, extending both to the north and west of the cultivated lands, before they were defaced by the great sand drift. At one time the population must have been very numerous, for there was a Church on the borders of the estate, the site of which still goes by the name of the "Chapel Hill." The comparative value of the lands of Culbin may be known when it is stated that, in 1654, its valued rental in the parish of Dyke was £913 18s. 4d. Scots, while that of Darnaway, belonging to the Earl of Moray, in the same parish, and which is of great extent, was only £913 13s. 10d. Scots. It is evident, from this statement, that the estate of Culbin held a high rank amongst the properties of the country.

There can be little doubt that the great accumulation of sand which overwhelmed Culbin, and covered an extensive district in its neighbourhood, was derived from various parts along the shore of the Frith, when the old coast line began to break up. On many parts of the coast the sea has made extensive encroachments, especially between Burghead and Findhorn. Although history is silent on the subject, there is a tradition prevalent among the inhabitants of these villages that, about 200 years ago, there was easy access, in a direct line, along the shore from the one village to the other, the distance being then about six miles. It is evident that the sea, since that time, has made extensive encroachments upon the land; and, even within the remembrance of some of the old inhabitants of the place, there have been great changes on the coast; they have long

remarked a visible wasting away of the land. At the present time the coast-line between Burghead and Findhorn is a great curve inland, and the distance along the shore, between these villages, is now nearly doubled, or about ten miles. The materials which the sea had to work upon were extensive ranges of sea-beaches. To a casual observer, these beaches have all the appearance of being composed of shingle or water-worn stones; but, in most instances, the appearance is deceptive. When a section is exposed by the action of the sea, they are seen to have a thin covering of rounded stones, but the great body of the beaches is a mass of fine sand, interstratified here and there with thin layers of small pebbles. By some peculiar tidal movement, very different from that which affected the coast during the formation of these beaches, the sea has been, for a long time, endeavouring to recover part of its former domain. The sand, which formed the greater proportion of these beaches, has been gradually carried westward, and thrown up on various parts of the shore between Findhorn and Nairn. These new deposits, thrown up in the form of sand beaches, had been seized upon by the strong westerly winds and carried inland; and there can be no doubt that these were, at first, the great feeders of the huge sand hills of Mavieston, which lie some three or four miles west from Culbin. By degrees the sand was drifted eastward, and, in course of time, formed numerous mounds of immense size and extent, and spread itself over a tract of country fully eight miles in length, and, in some places, upwards of two miles in breadth. The once beautiful and fertile estate of Culbin is included in this tract. At the present time it is altogether deeply covered with sand, from which, according to appearances, there is little likelihood that it ever will be free.

To all appearance there was little injury sustained by the sand-drift westward of Culbin. All the way from Mavieston the sand-hills are heaped up on ancient shingle beaches. This is also the case with the tract of ground lying between Culbin and the back shore on the north. It is the same between the eastern boundary of Culbin and the river Findhorn. Although there is no appearance of any great extent of cultivated land having been destroyed, either to the west or north of Culbin, it is



evident that extensive ranges of good pasture had been rendered wholly useless. In some places, towards the west, there are extensive plains, fully a mile in length, and about a quarter of a mile in breadth, lying between one series of sea-beaches and another. These low grounds must, at one time, have been covered with a close herbage, for even now, when there is but a slight covering of sand, various kinds of coarse grasses, and several species of carices, are seen to spring up and make great efforts to hold their place. In several of these places a great number of Scotch firs have been planted, and it is remarkable how healthy they look, and how well they thrive, with the sand heaped up about them to the height of two and three feet. Although these green spots present little of the refreshing verdure which meets the eye in the cultivated parts of the country, yet they have a very pleasing appearance when seen amidst the wide waste of sand, which bounds the view on every side. They are like oases in the desert.

The injury was not wholly confined to the estate of Culbin. About the time of Culbin sand-drift, there was an extraordinary drifting of sand over most of the country inland. In the parishes of Kinloss and Duffus, and over the northern portion of the parish of Alves, sand is found in considerable depths. It overlies in some places a deep reddish clay, which is most favourable to vegetation.

On the estate of Inverugie the sand had covered the old land to a great depth. This estate came into the possession of the late William Young, Esq., a gentleman of no common energy, and one of the most persevering and enterprising men of the north. Although he delighted to see good farming, and did his utmost to encourage the cultivators of the soil and promote their prosperity, yet the rich old spots of the earth presented few attractions to him. He conceived that a man derived little credit by raising rich crops on a soil that had been under cultivation for centuries. Nothing afforded him greater pleasure than to see the waste and unsightly parts of the country improved and made useful. In this respect he set an example to all around him, by selecting the most worthless and forbidding piece of ground for his experiments; and by the time he had done with it he seldom failed to invest it with all the charms of a little

paradise. Mr. Young had not been long in possession of Inverugie when he began to see that there was a treasure concealed under the sand. He went to work with a will, and with a spirit that never fagged; and notwithstanding the great body of sand he had to work upon, he trenched it to the extent of some hundred acres, and brought to the surface a thick covering of the rich, old, black soil, which had been lying in many places fully 8 feet under the sand. The work was accomplished at an enormous expense, but the result, in due time, was highly remunerative, and soon became apparent on the different farms in the well-filled stackyards and the luxuriant pastures.

It may not be uninteresting to mention that, while Mr. Young was engaged in this great work, his friend, the late Sir Thomas Dick Lauder of Relugas, conceiving this to be a favourable opportunity for testing the vitality of seeds after being long buried in the soil, procured a quantity of the mould. This was in February, 1817. After carefully tending the soil, which he had put in a couple of flower-pot saucers, he had the pleasure of seeing no fewer than 46 plants springing up in May of the same year. In a short time he was able to identify four different species of plants. These were the mouse-ear (*Cerastium arvense*), scorpion grass (*Myosotis scorpioides*), purple archangel (*Lamium purpureum*), and the corn spurrey (*Spergula arvensis*). It is curious that this old soil, which had been lying inert for nearly two centuries, should produce the same species of plants which are troublesome, as weeds, to the cultivators of the soil at the present day.

Soon after the overthrow of Culbin, another great change took place in its neighbourhood. Formerly, the river Findhorn swept round to the north of the lands of Binsness, and thence flowed westward, about six miles, in a course nearly parallel with the shore, before it entered the Firth at the Old Bar. At the present time the river, after passing the village of Findhorn, flows northwards, and falls directly into the sea. It is supposed that this change in the course of the river was caused by the great quantity of sand drifted eastward from Culbin, and which, in its progress, had accumulated in the bed of the river. By this means a barrier was formed in the channel, and the waters, having accumulated behind it, sought an



outlet at the lowest level, which happened to be in the direction which it now holds. It may easily be conceived how soon a rush of water would form a channel for itself, when there was nothing in its way but a tract of loose sand and shingle. About the same time the village of Findhorn stood about a mile to the north-west of its present site. It, too, was affected by the changes that were then taking place. It had been for some time threatened by the sea encroaching upon it on one side, and the river on the other; and one night, during a fearful storm, the sea broke in upon it and swept it away. Fortunately, the villagers were aware of its precarious position, and left it in time, so that there was no loss of human life.

An opinion has been long prevalent among the inhabitants of the district, and indeed among many persons at a distance, that the estate of Culbin, with the mansion-house, and all the houses of the numerous tenantry, were overwhelmed in one night. This opinion had no doubt arisen from the circumstance that, after a most tremendous night of sand-drift, a finishing stroke was given to the great work of destruction, which had been going on gradually for a number of years. Previously to that time the mansion-house and several of the houses of the tenantry were still inhabited, and portions of the land were still under cultivation, but on that awful night every person had to flee for safety. The relentless sand-flood poured fiercely over houses and fields and gardens, and when the poor houseless tenants returned in the morning to look for their homes, nothing was to be seen but a wide waste of sand. So bewildering was the sight, that it became a subject of conjecture among them where their former habitations lay.

The history of the family also affords some clear and distinct notices of the gradual destruction of the estate. It is on record that Alexander Kinnaird succeeded to the estate, after it was much destroyed by the blowing of sand. On July 17th, 1695, he petitioned Parliament to be exempted from paying cess, "because his estate, which 20 years before was one of the most considerable in Moray, was nearly all covered with sand, and the mansion-house and orchard destroyed." Two years afterwards, this same Alexander applied to Parliament for a

personal protection from his creditors, on the ground that three-parts of his estate were overrun with sand, and the fourth part sold for payment of his creditors.

In many places throughout the district, where the sand has been drifted away from the old sea-beaches, large heaps of sea shells are to be seen lying upon the top of them. They all belong to shell-fish of the edible kind, and consist mostly of the oyster (*Ostrea edulis*), cockle (*Cardium edule*), mussel (*Mytilus edulis*), tapes (*Tapes decussata*), rock Jenus (*Tapes pultastra*), and buckie or periwinkle (*Littorina littorea*). In early times the basin of the Moray Frith must have afforded a favourable habitat for the oyster. Their shells are found in great abundance, not only in the neighbourhood of Culbin, but in many other places both to the east and west of it; and it would appear, from the great collections of them everywhere, that the people of the district had used them largely. In many places their shells are heaped up, layer above layer, to the depth of two and three feet. Some great change must have taken place in the bed of Frith, for the animal is now completely extirpated. Perhaps it would not be erring greatly to ascribe their destruction to the same causes which ultimately overwhelmed the lands of Culbin. The great tidal movements which had gradually broken up the old coast-line, carried the sand westward. This sand was, no doubt, widely and largely distributed over the basin of the Frith before it was thrown up on the shore, and when it overspread the firm, hard ground, which had been the favourite haunt of the oyster, its destruction was inevitable.

It is generally supposed that these heaps of shells indicate the places where human habitations had once stood, before the district was overblown with sand. In most instances the shells are intermixed with the ashes of peat, and this gives some countenance to the supposition; but if there were houses here, every trace of them has long since disappeared. However, there is a person now living in the neighbourhood who remembers to have seen, about 40 years ago, the walls and some other parts of a house exposed by the wind blowing off the sand. The walls of the house were formed entirely of a firm clay turf, which had been very carefully cut and regularly placed. A few wooden supports, very much decayed,



were still remaining. The floor was neatly causewayed with rounded stones from the beach, and over this there was a layer of clay about four inches in thickness. The greater part of the materials had been worn away by the wind beating upon it at some former time, the part of it which remained entire had been preserved by its being covered with sand.

It is said that many of the tenants on the estate of Culbin lingered long in their old habitations, always cherishing the hope that the sand would make no further progress. So determined were they to keep possession of their dwellings, that when the sand was heaped up in front of their houses, they still managed, with great labour, to clear an entrance; but soon the accumulations became too great to be cleared away, and at last every way of access in front was completely blocked up. Notwithstanding the threatening appearance of matters, they still clung to their abodes, and broke out an entrance in the back wall of their houses; but even this was only of temporary advantage, for the sand accumulated around them with every wind and soon overtopped the houses, and at length engulfed them in the common ruin.

Although the Mansion-house of Culbin has been for a long time deeply buried under one of the large mounds, yet portions of it have at times been fully exposed. About 80 years ago there had been a furious drifting of sand, which continued for several days in succession, and which greatly altered the figure of many of the large sand-hills. During this change a great part of the old Mansion appeared, standing like a skeleton, apart from the great mass of sand in which it had been long entombed. It was firmly and substantially built, and contained a number of finely dressed stones. While it lay exposed it was used by the people in the neighbourhood as a quarry, and many a fair building in the district now possesses some of the good substantial stones that once graced the old baronial Mansion of Culbin. If the weather had continued favourable, there was every likelihood that all the materials of the Mansion would have soon disappeared. Soon, however, another furious sand-drift swept across the district, and the old House of Culbin again disappeared. At a later time one of the chimney-tops was seen peering, like a large march-stone,

above the sand. It remained visible for some time, and many persons went to see it, but, during a night of severe drifting, it disappeared. This seems to have been the last sight obtained of any part of the House of Culbin.

It is also mentioned that, some considerable time after the estate was destroyed, the branches of a cherry tree, in full blossom, were seen standing out from the side of one of the sand-hills, under which the garden and orchard lay. It is also stated that an old man, who died about 20 years ago, and who lived to the age of 80, used to relate that, in his younger days, he observed a thriving branch of an apple tree protruding from the side of a sand-hill. He visited the locality from time to time, watching the progress of the branch, and, as it was a favourable season, it budded and blossomed, and in due time bore fruit, which he had the pleasure of gathering. The fruit was of fair size, and most delicious in flavour.

The relics obtained from the old lands of Culbin belong to a period too close at hand to be of much interest to the antiquary. They consist of fragments of pottery, bits of iron and brass, and stone-whorls of the old-fashioned distaff. Persons in the neighbourhood state that silver spoons have been found in the soil. Flint arrow-heads and celts have been picked up in several places along the tops of the ancient sea beaches, and in one place, in the neighbourhood of some large heaps of marine shells, a great many flint arrow-heads were found, along with numerous fragments of the flinty substance, leading to the supposition that arrow-heads had been manufactured in this particular locality. In the same place were found a few fragments of what seemed to have been bracelets, very neatly cut, and made from black oak, but these belong to a period much more remote than the historic days of Culbin.

As reference has been often made to the Family of Culbin, it may not be deemed unimportant to give a short genealogical account of it, from the only authentic source now extant. The family was of the ancient Moravienses, and is descended from the great Flemish house of Freskyn, who, by the powerful assistance it afforded to William the Lion and his immediate successors, acquired great possessions in the north of Scotland, from the chief of which they assumed the local name of Moray. The



descent of the Family may be traced from Egidix or Giles Moray, daughter and heiress of Walter de Moravia de Culbin, who married Thomas Kinnaird of Kinnaird about 1400, and whose successors took the name of Kinnaird. Of this marriage there were two sons—Allan, ancestor of Kinnaird of that ilk, and Thomas, ancestor of the Kinnaird of Culbin. Allan succeeded his father, Thomas, and got a charter of the barony of Culbin, in Perthshire, May 7, 1440. He likewise got a charter of the barony of Culbin, on the resignation of his mother, Egidia. He was succeeded in the estate of Culbin by his brother Thomas, who obtained a charter of confirmation. He was succeeded by his son Thomas, who was succeeded by his son, Walter Kinnaird of Culbin, who was retoured heir to his father Thomas de Culbin, 23rd January, 1509. He married, first, Marjory Dunbar. He appears to have married, secondly, Margaret Murray. He was succeeded by his grandson, Walter Kinnaird of Culbin. He married Elizabeth Innes, of the family of Innes. They were both living in 1613, which is ascertained by the Inscription on their Tombstone, still preserved in the Church of Dyke. Walter was succeeded by his son, Alexander Kinnaird of Culbin, who was retoured heir to his father Walter, in 1626. He was succeeded by his son Walter. This gentleman is frequently mentioned in the Rolls and Acts of Parliament. He was succeeded by his son, Thomas Kinnaird of Culbin. He was named a Commissioner for raising public duties in Morayshire in 1685. He was succeeded by his son, Alexander Kinnaird of Culbin. This gentleman succeeded after the estate was much destroyed by the blowing of the sand. He married Mary, daughter of Alexander, 10th Lord Forbes, and relict of Hugh Rose of Kilravock, by whom he had a son named Thomas, who was a young child, and left an orphan at the time the estate was destroyed. A female relation took charge of him, removed with him to Edinburgh, where she supported herself and him for two years by needlework, until a half-brother of his, Colonel Alexander Rose, of a regiment of horse stationed in Ireland, took him under his care. The young man afterwards became Captain of a troop of horse, and died about 1743.

The estate of Culbin was sold, about 1700, to Duff of Drummuir, from whose family it came by purchase into

the family of Grant. In 1772, the late Sir James Grant sold it, along with Moy, to Colonel Hugh Grant, a son of Sheuglies, upon whose death, in 1822, it fell by disposition to James Murray Grant, Esq., of Glenmoriston.]

(See a Lecture delivered before the Elgin Literary and Scientific Association, in May, 1861, by John Martin, a native of Elgin, having been born, in humble circumstances, at Clackmarras. He became teacher of the Free School of Anderson's Institution in 1831, and retired in 1866 on a pension of £60. He died æt. 87, on Sunday the 8th May, 1881.) (ED.)

[By charter, dated at Elgin, 1189-99, King William gave the Churches of Foreys and Dyk, with the tithes and vicarage of the same, to the Bishop of Moray. (*Reg. Ep. Morav.*)

The Church of Dilse (? Dyke) (*Theiner*) is rated at 22s. 8d. in the Taxation of 1275, and at 4 merks in that of 1350. It was a prebend of the Cathedral of Moray, and one of the mensal churches of the diocese.

The three Churches of Dyke, Moy, and Forres were under one Minister in 1574; and Alexander Duff was Reader at Dyke.

A decret was pronounced on 24th Jan., 1618, "Anent the vneiting of the Kirk of Moy to the Kirk of Dyk, baithe lyand w'in the diocie of Murray" (*Acta Parl.*, v. 569). In 1641 the right of presentation to the Church of Dyke was found to belong to the Earl of Dunfermline, Lord Fyvie (*ibid*); but Campbell of Moy entered a protest against this finding, as recorded in the Presbytery books of Forres. (*Shaw's History of Province of Moray*).

In 1780, during the digging of the foundations of the present Church of Dyke, and near the steps which lead to the burial-place of Brodie of that ilk, a quantity of silver coins were found. They belonged to the time of William the Lion, and were from the mints of Edinburgh, Perth, Roxburgh, Stirling, and Berwick.

Mr. Cardonnel (*Numismata Scotiæ*, Preface 3, 4), who gives a description of the coins and their discovery, says that they were found by a workman, who immediately closed up the trench where they lay, but who returned at night, along with his wife, and carried off the whole mass, which, adds Mr. Cardonnel, "must have been very



valuable," for the finder, a poor man, soon became a considerable farmer. Fortunately some specimens of "the find" were saved from the melting-pot, and deposited in the Museum of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, where they are still to be seen. This discovery was one of National importance, it having been previously doubted whether there was a silver Coinage in Scotland in the time of King William.

#### EPITAPHS IN THE CHURCHYARD OF DYKE.

The Church and Churchyard of Dyke occupy a rising ground, and on the south side of the Kirk is the burial-place of the present noble family of Moray. It is enclosed with a railing, and marked by a handsome Obelisk of white marble. The family arms adorn the needle, and a tablet in the plinth bears:—

##### I. THIS IS THE BURYING-PLACE OF THE FAMILY OF MORAY.

In the Kirk-Session Records (Jan. 17, 1683) it is stated, "This day being Wednesday, the corps of the right honourable The Countess of Murray were interred in the church of Dyke, the Right Reverend father in God, the Bishop of Murray, preached the funerall sermon." This entry appears to relate to the fourth Countess, Emilia, daughter of Sir William Balfour of Pitcullo, and mother of the fifth Earl of Moray. According to *Douglas' Peerage*, the second Earl of Moray, who died at Darnaway, 6th August, 1638, "was buried next day at the Church of Dyke, without any pomp, according to his own directions."

The founder of this branch of the Earls of Moray was James, the "Good Regent" (natural son of James V.), who was assassinated by Hamilton of Bothwellhaugh at Linlithgow, 21st January, 1569-70, when in his 37th year. He was buried within St. Giles' Church, Edinburgh, in which is his Monument, lately restored. His wife was a daughter of Earl Marischal, and by her he left two daughters, the elder of whom, Lady Elizabeth, married James Stewart, afterwards the "Bonny Earl of Moray" of Scottish song, son and heir of Sir James Stewart of Doune. He was murdered by Huntly's men among the rocks near Donibristle, 7th February, 1591-2, and was succeeded by his eldest brother, James, from whom the present Earl is descended.

The family Burial-aisle of the Brodies of that ilk is at the east end of the Church. It is an ashlar building, with a stair leading to a vault, in which are :—

II. The coffins of William Douglas-Rynett and George Gordon, two of the sons of the Laird of Brodie. The former, born 20th Jan., 1815, died 16th Nov., 1865, and the latter, born 12th Aug., 1839, died 3rd Dec., 1868.

III. A coffin-slab, built into the north end of the upper flat of the aisle, presents a calvary on steps, with a sword below the right arm. Round the margin of the stone (part of which is unfortunately covered by the floor) is this inscription :—

✠ hic iacet richardus brothu cu uxore sua qui obiit x<sup>o</sup> vi<sup>o</sup> die . . . . . ano dni m<sup>o</sup> = cccc<sup>o</sup> = lxxx<sup>o</sup> = viii<sup>o</sup>

This is the only inscribed slab within the aisle, and nothing is recorded of the persons commemorated.

IV. There are also three inscribed coffin-plates within the building :—

The Hon. Alexander Brodie of Brodie, Esq., Lyon King at Arms for Scotland. Obiit March 9, 1754, ætat. 58.

It was in this laird's time, says Mr. Young in his *History of New Spynie*, that the family of Brodie reached its greatest height of prosperity, being then possessed of very considerable territory, to which the Lyon-King added the property of Lochloy. He was sometime M.P. for Elginshire, and afterwards for the Inverness District of Burghs.

V. Alexander Brodie of Brodie, Esq., born May 29, 1741, died at Bristol, Sept. 5th, 1759, aged 18 years, the last surviving son of Alex. Brodie of Brodie, Lord Lyon, deceased, and of Mary Sleigh, his wife.

VI. Mary Sleigh, only child of Major Sam Sleigh and of Isabella Corbet, his wife. This truly worthy lady died universally regretted the 21st March, 1769, in the 56th year of her age, the widow of Alex. Brodie of Brodie, Esq., Lord Lyon, by whom she had eight children, three most promising sons and five daughters, all which she survived, except one most unspeakably afflicted daughter, Emilia, the wife of John Macleod of Macleod, Esq.

Tradition says that "a weird" was pronounced against the Brodies of that ilk, to the effect that no son born



within the Castle of Brodie should ever become heir to the property. It is added that this was caused by one of the lairds who induced an old woman to confess being guilty of witchcraft by offering her a new gown, and then, instead of fulfilling his promise, had her tied to a stake and burnt.

It is further stated that the lady of the Lyon-King treated the malison with indifference, and bore all her family in the Castle of Brodie; but as she had the misfortune to see one son after another pass away by death, it is said she repented of her neglect of the warning, and died of a broken heart. But the malison, whatever effect it may have had in days of yore, has now quite lost its power, the present laird having been born *within* the Castle of Brodie, 8th Sept., 1840.

On the death of the son of the Lyon-King in 1759, the succession to Brodie devolved upon his cousin, James Brodie of Spynie. He married a daughter of William, Earl of Fife, by whom he had a large family, and, dying in 1824, was succeeded by a grandson, William, who died in 1873, having been Lord Lieutenant of Nairnshire from his succession in 1824. He was succeeded by his second surviving son, Hugh, who married, Jan. 1, 1868, Lady Eleanor, third daughter of the second Earl of Ducie, by whom he has issue, four sons and one daughter.

The present laird's grandfather, who was accidentally drowned at Madras in 1802, left two sons and five daughters. The fourth daughter, Isabella, married Capt. Pattullo, of the Madras Cavalry; and within an aisle (adjoining that of the Brodies) is a marble Monument, with war trophies, the names of the battles in which the deceased was engaged—Alma, Balaclava, Inkerman—and this Inscription:—

VII. This monument is erected to the memory of Lieut.-Col. James Brodie Pattullo, C.B. of the 30th Regiment, by many friends who wished to record their affection for him, and their admiration of his character, conduct, and military services. Distinguished throughout the whole Crimean Campaign for his gallantry and zeal, he was not less remarkable for the fortitude with which he bore its unparalleled hardships, and for his devotion to the best interests of the soldiers. He fell mortally wounded at the attack on the Redan, 8th Sept., 1855, and died the following day, in his 33rd year, greatly beloved and

lamented. Sustained in death by the principles which guided his life, expressing his reliance solely on the merits of our Lord Jesus Christ, he died in the sure and certain hope of a joyful resurrection.

The surname of Brothu, Brothy, Brodie, is of territorial origin, and seems to have been assumed from the lands of that name in Dyke, from which, under the name of "Brochy," the King's collector, in 1337 (*Chamb. Rolls*), charges himself with certain payments. Shaw supposes the family to be a branch of the ancient Moravienses, or those of the time of Malcolm IV., and begins the pedigree with Malcolm, Thane of Brodie, who died in 1285, a designation which occurs in the case of John of Brodie, in 1492 (*Reg. Ep. Morav.*, 236). It is further said that Thomas of Brothie and Dyke had a charter of the lands of Brodie from Bruce in 1311. The most important cadet of the family is Brodie of Lethen, whose ancestor, Alexander, was a brother of David Brodie of that ilk, and uncle to Lord Brodie. Mr. John Clerk Brodie, W.S., Laird of Idvies, is a son of this branch.

It was one of the lairds of Brodie who wrote an interesting Diary, 1652-80, which was carried on by his son down to 1685. It has been printed for "the Spalding Club," under the editorship of Dr. David Laing, of the Signet Library, Edinburgh. On reference to Dr. Laing's preface, and to Spalding's *History of the Troubles* (i. 376), it will be found that the Laird of Brodie had such a share in the destruction of two oil Paintings of the Crucifixion and of the Day of Judgment, and of some carved work in the Cathedral of Elgin, as cannot be sympathised with in modern times.

VIII. About sixty years ago, while the sexton was digging a grave, he came upon a carved Stone which had formed a portion of the tomb of the old family of Kinnaird of Culbin. It bears two shields. One initialed V.K. exhibits the Kinnaird and Innes coats, quarterly; the other, initialed B.I., is charged with the Innes arms, and a crescent for a difference. Below are the following date and curious rhyme in interlaced Roman capitals:—

1613.

VALTER : KINNAIRD : ELIZABETH :

INNES : THE : BVILDARS : OF : THIS :



BED : OF : STANE : AR : LAIRD : AD :  
 LADIE : OF : COVBINE : QVICK :  
 TVA : AND : THAIRS : QVHANE :  
 BRAITHE : IS : GANE : PLEIS : GOD :  
 VIL : SLEIP : THIS : BED : VITHIN :

In July, 1571, the above-named persons had a nineteen years' lease of the teinds of Culbyn, Meretoun, and Leak from the Bishop of Moray, for the yearly payment of £12 6s. 8d. (*App. Reg. Ep. Morav.*). Walter Kynnaired, whose daughter was probably the wife of Fraser of Braikie, in Forfarshire, died about 1626, as on 4th April of that year his son Alexander was served heir to his father in the lands of Culbin and others.

The next printed Retour (Aug. 15, 1677) shows that Thomas Kinnaird succeeded his father, Walter, in Culbin, and other properties, among which were the fishings and ferry coble on the Findhorn, and the "Mansio capellæ Sancti Niniani infra parochiam de Diser" (? Dyke). There was a Chapel dedicated to St. Ninian near Kincorth, where the name is still preserved in *Ninian's Croft*. The tenant of the farm of which the croft forms a part is bound to pay to the Kirk Session yearly the price of three old bolls of barley for behoof of the poor.

Culbin was an ancient inheritance of the Morays of Duffus, Alexander of Moray being designed Lord of Culbin in 1389 (*Reg. Ep. Morav.* 354). The heiress, Egidia de Moravia, having married Thomas, son of Richard Kinnaird of that ilk (ancestor of the Lords Kinnaird in Perthshire), brought Culbin to her husband about 1440. The property was bought from the Kinnairds by Alex. Duff of Drummair, from the creditors of whose second son, John, Culbin and Easter Moy were acquired by Major George Grant about 1732.

IX. An enclosure (near the Moray obelisk) contains two marble slabs, thus inscribed:—

X. The Burial Ground of the Macleods of Dalvey.

Sacred to the memory of Mary Mackintosh, the beloved wife of Eneas Mackintosh, who died 3rd Nov., 1848.

Grangehill, the name of which was changed to Dalvey by Sir Alex. Grant, of the Durris family, who bought the property about 1749, was acquired by an ancestor of the

late Mr. Macleod about 17 . As a whole, it is possibly one of the loveliest of the many lovely spots in Morayshire; and the gardens, which contained a number of rare and valuable plants, were much visited by tourists and others during the time of the late proprietor, who died in 1876. At Grangehill the Prior of Pluscardine had a grange and a cell of monks who cultivated the land.

XI. From a plain headstone to the east of the Brodie vault:—

The Burial-place of the Allans, late of Muirhall, Brodie.

"The Allans" were a farmer family, and a daughter married the Rev. Dr. David Brichan, Minister of Dyke, "an accomplished scholar and elegant writer," who died in 1814. A son, James Brodie Brichan, who adhered to the Free Church, and died of pleurisy at Edinburgh, 17th March, 1864, at the age of 54, was an industrious and trustworthy literary antiquary. He assisted the late Professor Cosmo Innes in the compilation of some of his valuable works, and was sole author of the last, and of a considerable portion of the first, volume of *Origines Parochiales Scotiæ*, which is perhaps one of the most valuable of the many important works printed for the Bannatyne Club. This great work is unfortunately unfinished. The portion issued embraces (vol. i.) the Dioceses of Glasgow; vol. ii., part 1, Argyle and the Isles; part 2, Ross, Caithness, Argyle, and the Isles.

XII. A death's head and crossed bones are rudely carved upon the stone, which bears this brief record:—

Robert Cowie,  
Christian Mawer, 1682.

The next three inscriptions are from tablestones:—

XIII. Placed here at the request of John Clunes, of the parish of St. Mary, County of Middlesex, and Island of Jamaica, in commemoration of the remains of his beloved parents, James Clunes and Jean MacKintosh, the former born in the year 1730, died in the year 1802; the latter born in the year 1749, died in the year 1811.

XIV. Mary William, wf. of D. Christie, d. 1784, a. 23.

Well did she act the different scenes of life;  
A modest virgin, and a loving wife;



A darling daughter, and a mother kind ;  
 A pleasant neighbour, and a constant friend ;  
 By all who knew her worth, she liv'd belov'd,  
 And all with sorrow for her death was mov'd.

XV. William Falconer, and his wf. Janet Gavin, "who once possessed the large farms of Grange Green." Erected in 1805 by the late Robert Falconer, teacher of languages, Newcastle :—

When resurrection's hour shall come,  
 And death itself shall die,  
 The Lord will take his servant home  
 To endless life and joy.

XVI. From a headstone :—

Sacred to the memory of James M'Kenzie and Sophia Bower, his wife—

When thousands of winters pass over my head  
 In this house that is cold and dreary,  
 With me the worldling is confin'd,  
 But with me there is rest for the weary.

By Jas. M'Kenzie, his son, State of Ohio, N.A.

The Parish Kirk and Public School stand at the village of Dyke. Near the manse is a female school, into the gable of which two triangular-shaped slabs are built, with these inscriptions :—

XVII. Erected for Education of Youth of the Female Sex in piety and virtue by Brodie of that ilk, 1701.

This refers to a donation which was made by James Brodie, who wrote a continuation of his father's Diary, in which he gives some quaint notices of himself and his backslidings. When fined £24,000 Scots for refusing the Test Act, he consoles himself by remarking—"The world has bein my idol, and the love of it and covetousness the root of much evil," adding, "and the Lord justlie may punish in this."

Mr. Brodie, as noticed below, was assisted by a legal "friend" in the material point of augmenting the teacher's salary :—

XVII. Bestowed for salary by Iohn Anderson, writer, our kindlie freind, the rent of two thousand merks yearly, 1701.

Another benefactor to the parish was Henry Vass, who died in 1757. He was some time in the service of Major Grant of Culbin, and left the interest of £100 to assist in

clothing twelve indigent children in Dyke, as recorded upon his tombstone at Elgin.

The Muckle Burn, which runs through the parish of Dyke, and falls into the Findhorn, is bridged at Dalvey, and at the railway station of Brodie. A handsome suspension bridge, which cost about £7,000, crosses the Findhorn on the Inverness turnpike, and bears these inscriptions:—

XVIII. The stone bridge erected here in 1800 having been swept away by the flood of the 4th August, 1829, the suspension bridge was built 1832. Founded 1st March, 1832.

XIX. Erected under Act of Parliament by the subscription of the inhabitants of Forres and its vicinity. Samuel Brown, Commander, Royal Navy, Engineer. Opened 30th May, 1832.] (*Jervise's Epitaphs.*)

Before I proceed further, I shall give a sketch of

#### THE EARLS OF MORAY.

This Earldom continued long feudal, reverting to the Crown in default of male issue in the direct line. The first I have signed Earl of Moray is, OEngus Comes de Moravia interfectus est cum suis (*Chron. Melr.*) anno 1130. Mr. Myles makes him descended of King Duncan the bastard. Others will have the descendants of Duncans Earl of Moray as followeth (1) Duncan, bastard son of King Malcolm III. He usurped the throne anno 1094; and his charter sheweth, that he hoped to transmit it to his posterity; but he was cut off anno 1095. His son, by Ethelreda, daughter of Gospatrick, son of Criman, Earl of Northumberland (*Myles*), (2) William Nepos Comitibus David et Nepos Regis (*Dalr. Col.*). Dugdale says, if my memory doth



not fail, that he was Earl of Moray, and married Ailtze de Rumelli. This is the more probable, because he was much in favour with King David I., and was one of his generals. His son was (3) Dovenald. Hovedan says, He was called MacWilliam, MacWilliam being son of William, the son of Duncan, and was killed anno 1187. This is agreeable to *Chron. Melr. ad. ann.* 1186. "Cumque Rex esset apud oppidum Inverness cum exercitu, Comites Scotiæ miserunt suos homines ad prædandum, inveneruntque MacWilliam cum suis super Moram quæ dicitur Mangarvia prope Mureff, and mox cum eo pugnarunt, et Deo opitulante, cum multis aliis intersece-runt."\* His son was (4) Dovenald, of whom the *Chron. Melr. ad. ann.* 1215 observeth, that Dovenald, son of MacWilliam, invaded Moray, but was cut off by *Mac-in-Tsayairt*, ancestor to Ross, Earl of Ross, and his head brought to the king. Possibly from these MacWilliams, came the MacWilliams in Boharm, &c.

The next Earl of Moray I have met with, is Sir Thomas Randolph, great grandson of Ranulfus, who is a frequent witness in King William's Charters. His son Thomas died anno 1262, and

\* *Translation.*—When the King was with his army at the town of Inverness, the Barons of Scotland sent forth their retainers to plunder; and they found MacWilliam with his troops above Moram, which is called Mangarvia, on the borders of Moray, and they directly encountered him, and with the help of God they slew him with many besides.

was interred in the Abbey of Melrose. His son, Sir Thomas, Lord Chamberlain, married Isabel, sister of King Robert Bruce. And their son, Sir Thomas, was created Earl of Moray anno 1313 or 1314. Although the Charter or Patent beareth no date, yet it is certain that in the convention at Ayr 1315, he was Earl of Moray (*Anderson Indep.*). Thomas died anno 1331, and his son Thomas, second Earl of Moray, succeeded him. He was, according to Fordun, "paternæ probitatis, imitator." He was slain fighting gallantly against the enemies of his country, at the fatal Battle of Duplin anno 1332; and having no issue, he was succeeded by his brother, Earl John, who was a strenuous asserter of the liberties of his country. He had the misfortune to be taken prisoner at the Battle of Kilblain anno 1335, and was confined, first in the Castle of Nottingham, afterwards in the Tower of London, till he was released by the mediation of the King of France, and exchanged for the Earl of Salisbury anno 1341. He was immediately constituted Warden of the west Marches. He accompanied King David II. in his unfortunate expedition into England, and was killed at the Battle of Durham anno 1346, leaving no issue, and the Earldom reverted to the Crown. But Patrick Dunbar, Earl of March, in right of his wife Agnes, daughter of Thomas Randolph, first Earl of Moray, was designed "Comes Marcie et Moravie."



John Dunbar, second son of Earl Patrick, marrying the Princess Marjory, King Robert II.'s daughter, was made Earl of Moray 1372, but Badenoch, Lochaber, and Urquhart were excepted out of the grant. And upon the demise of Earl James Dunbar, the last of that name,

Archibald, brother to the Earl of Douglas, was Earl of Moray, about 1446. But having joined in his brother's rebellion in 1452, he was forfeited, and was killed in 1455.

Upon the forfeiture of Archibald Douglas, the title was assumed by Janet Dunbar, daughter of James Earl of Moray, and wife of James Lord Crichton. In 1454, there are several charters granted by Janet Dunbar, Countess of Moray, and Lady Frenderet, to Alexander Dunbar of Westfield, her brother (*pen. West.*), but she gave up her pretensions to the Earldom of Moray, and obtained that of Caithness to her son George.

In 1501, James Stewart, natural son of King James IV., got the Earldom of Moray. He was called the Little Earl, and died in 1544, without male issue.

In 1548, the Earldom was conferred on George Earl of Huntly; but that grant was recalled in 1554, and it remained in the Crown till the year 1562.

It was then granted to James Stewart, natural son to King James V. In the Acts of Privy Council 12th February, 1561, he is designed

Earl of Mar; but in the Council held at Aberdeen 15th October, 1562, he is designed Earl of Moray (*Keith's Hist.*). His eldest daughter, Elizabeth, married James Stewart, Lord Downe, who, in her right, became Earl of Moray. Lord Downe was descended of Robert Duke of Albany, third son to King Robert II. James, son of Murdac, Duke of Albany, had four sons; viz., Andrew, James, Walter, and Arthur, who, because they were born out of the country, were legitimated anno 1472. Andrew was created Lord Evendale 1459; and having no issue, was succeeded by his nephew, Alexander, son of Walter, whose son Andrew, third Lord Evendale, with the consent of the Crown, exchanged that title for Ochiltree. In his father's lifetime, he married Margaret, daughter of Sir John Kennedy of Blairquhan, with whom he had three sons, Andrew, second Lord Ochiltree, whose male line is now extinct; Henry Lord Methven, whose male line is also extinct; and Sir James of Beith, who was a great favourite of King James V., and was by him made one of the Gentlemen of his Bed-chamber, Lieutenant of his Guards, Constable of the Castle of Down, and Stewart of Mentieth and Strathgartny. He was killed in Dunblain by the Laird of Duntreath, and his two brothers, out of a grudge for his having obtained the Stewartry of Mentieth, which was formerly in their family 1547, and his son James was created Lord Downe anno



1581,\* whose son James, married Elizabeth Countess of Moray, and from them the present family is descended.

[It was this Earl who was murdered at Dunibristle in 1592, who was succeeded by his son, James, who died in 1633. His son, James, survived till 1652, and was succeeded by his son, Alexander, who survived his first-born son, Alexander, Lord Downe, who, being the father of two beautiful daughters, the spouses of their happy husbands, Brigadier-general Alexander Grant of Grant, and Thomas Fraser of Strichen—their uncle, Charles, the second son, succeeded their father, Earl Alexander, who, being removed in 1735, was succeeded by his brother Francis, the third son of Earl Alexander, the 4th Earl, who left his rank and fortune to his eldest son, James, the 7th Earl. He was succeeded by his son, Francis, who was succeeded by three of that name. John, the 11th Earl, succeeded Francis, the 10th Earl, in 1859. He was succeeded by his half-brother, Archibald-George, who died unmarried in 1782; and was succeeded by his only surviving brother *George*. The heir presumptive is his lordship's cousin, Edmund Archibald Stewart Gray of Gray, King James and Balmerino.] (ED.)

Arms of Randolph, Earl of Moray. Or, three cusheons pendent by the corners within the royal tressure, Gules.

Arms of Dunbar, Earl of Moray. Quarterly, 1st and 4th, The arms of Randolph, Earl of Moray, above blazoned. 2nd

\* The form of creating Lord Downe a Peer, is by an Act of Parliament, 7th of James VI. anno 1581, bearing, that the lands of Downe, &c., were feued by Queen Mary to Sir James Stewart of Downe, Knight, his heirs, &c., and the said Sir James being descended of the royal blood: "Therefore his Highness, with the advice of his three estates, erects, creates, and incorporates, all the foresaid bonds, offices, &c., in an Lordship, to be called the Lordship of Downe, who shall have the dignity and place of a Lord of Parliament, with his arms effeiring thereto." This was an usual form (possibly for the greater solemnity, the King being under age) in imitation of the old form of creating an Earl, by creating his lands into a county. (*Essay on Brit. Antiq.*).

and 3rd Gules, a lion rampant within a border argent, charged with eight roses of the field.

Arms of Douglas, Earl of Moray. Quarterly, 1st and 4th, The arms of Randolph, Earl of Moray, above blazoned. 2nd and 3rd, a man's heart ensigned with an Imperial Crown proper, on a chief azure, three stars of the field.

Arms of James, Earl of Moray, natural son of King James IV. Quarterly, 1st and 4th, The imperial arms of Scotland bruised with a baton sinister, counter charged of the field and charge. 2nd and 3rd, The arms of Randolph, Earl of Moray, above blazoned.

Arms of James, Earl of Moray, Regent of Scotland in Queen Mary's time. The same as the last.

Arms of the present Earl of Moray. Quarterly, 1st and 4th, The imperial arms of Scotland within a bordure garbated, azure and argent. 2nd, Or, a fess checkie azure and argent. 3rd, The arms of Randolph, Earl of Moray, above blazoned.

Above the shield is placed his Lordship's coronet, over which is set an helmet befitting his quality, with a mantling Gules, the doubling ermine. On a wreath of his liveries is set for a crest, a pelican feeding her young. Or, in a nest vert. In an escroll above the crest, this motto. SALUS PER CHRISTUM REDEMPTOREM. And on a compartment below the shield, are placed for supporters, two grey hounds, argent collared, Gules.

I shall now give some account of

#### THE FAMILY OF BRODIE.

This name is manifestly local, taken from the lands of Brodie. In ancient writings, it is called Brothie, softened into Brodie. In the old Irish, *Broth* signifies a ditch or mire; the same as *Dyke* in Saxon, and *Digue* in French. And the mire, trench, or ditch, that runneth from the village of Dyke, to the north of Brodie House, seemeth to have given this place the name of Brodie. Be this as it will, the antiquity of this name appeareth from this, that no history, record, or



tradition (that I know of) doth so much as hint, that any other family or name possessed the lands of Brodie before them, or that they came as strangers from another country. I incline much to think, that they were originally of the ancient Moravienses, and were one of these loyal tribes, to whom King Malcolm IV. gave lands about the year 1160, when he transplanted the Moray rebels. At that time surnames were fixed; and the MacIntoshes, Innesses, Rosses, then assumed their names; and probably so did the Brodies. And their arms being the same with these of the Morays, sheweth that they were originally the same people.

The old writs of this family were either carried away by Lord Gordon when he burnt Brodie House in 1645, or were destroyed in that burning; and yet the descents of the family may be traced up about 500 years. (1) Malcolm was Thane of Brodie in the reign of King Alexander III. (2) Michael filius Malcolmi, Thanus de Brothie and Dyke, had a charter from King Robert Bruce about 1311 (*Hist. of Kilr. and Sir G. Mk. M.S.*). (3) Joannes de Brothie, accompanied the Earl of Mar Lord Lieutenant, about the year 1376 (*Hist. Kilr. and MacInt.*) (4) John of Brodie, assisted the MacKenzies against the MacDonalds, in the conflict at Park, anno 1466 (*Hist. of Sutherl. &c.*). (5) John of Brodie, witness in an indenture between the Thane of

Calder and the Baron of Kilravock, anno 1482 (*Pen. Cald.*). (Here two or three descents are wanting, which I could not find out.)

Alexander of Brodie, father of (9) David, who died anno 1627, leaving six sons; viz., David, who succeeded him; Alexander, who purchased the lands of Lethin, Kinloss, and Pitgavenie; Mr. John, who was Dean of Moray, and whose son William Brodie of Whitewreath, was father of Mr. William Brodie, Advocate, who died a bachelor in 1741; Mr. Joseph, the fourth son, was Mnister of Forres, and purchased the lands of Main near Elgin, which his son Alexander disposed to Pitgavenie, and bought the lands of Muirhouse near Turiff, which Alexander's grandson sold of late; Francis, the fifth son, purchased the lands of Milntoun and others near Elgin, which his grandson sold to Lord Braco, and his great-grand-son is Alexander Brodie of Windy-hills; William, the sixth son, was proprietor of Coltfeld, and his son William dying without issue, the lands came to the house of Brodie. (10) David had two sons; Alexander, who succeeded him, and Joseph of Asleisk. This Joseph of Asleisk, was father of George of Brodie, and of James of Whitehill, who purchased Coltfeld and Spynie; and whose son, James Brodie of Spynie, Advocate and Sheriff-depute of Moray and Nairn, died in 1756, leaving a son and heir, James a minor, who now enjoys the estate, and



represents the family of Brodie. (11) Alexander was a man of eminent piety and prudence, and was chosen a Lord of Session in 1649; but soon resigned. He was one of the Commissioners who were sent to treat with King Charles II. at the Hague and at Breda. He died in 1679, leaving issue, by a daughter of Sir Robert Innes, a son James, and a daughter married to Sir Robert Dunbar of Grangehill. (12) James, married Lady Mary Kerr daughter of Robert Earl of Lothian, and dying in 1708, left nine daughters: viz., Ann married to Lord Forbes; Catherine married to Robert Dunbar of Grangehill; Elizabeth married to Cummine of Altyre; Grizzel married to Dunbar of Dumphail; Emilia married to Brodie of Asleisk; Margaret married to James Brodie of Whitehill; Vere married to Brodie of Muirhouse; Mary married to Chivez of Muirtoun; and Henrietta the youngest who died unmarried. (13) George of Asleisk succeeded, and dying in 1716, left two sons, James and Alexander; and two daughters, one of which was married to Sinclair of Ulbster in Caithness, and the other to Munro of Navarre. (14) James succeeded his father; and dying in 1720, was succeeded by his brother. (15) Alexander, who was appointed Lord Lyon in 1727. He married Margaret daughter of Major Sley; and dying in 1754, left a son Alexander who succeeded him, and a daughter who was married to John Younger

of MacLeod. (16) Alexander died a bachelor in 1759; and was succeeded by (17) James Brodie, son of James Brodie of Spynie, and grandson of James Brodie of Whitehill. He married Lady Margaret Duff, daughter of the late Earl of Fife. [Their first-born son was drowned in India by the upsetting of his boat in the surge along the shore—leaving a son William Brodie, who, on the death of his grandfather, succeeded to the estates.]

The arms of the family of Brodie. Argent, a chevron Gules between three stars azure. Supporters, two savages proper wreathed about the head and middle with laurel. Crest, a right hand holding a bunch of arrows. All proper. Motto, UNITE.

#### AULDEARN PARISH.

The parish of Aldern (*Ault-Jaran*, i.e. the iron coloured brook) is about 3 miles from east to west, and as much from north to south.

The Church\* standeth about a mile from the sea, and from the east end of the parish, about 4 miles west from Dyke, 2 miles east from Nairn, and 4 miles east from Calder. In the lower part of the parish, towards the firth, is the barony of Inshoch, with a large old house, the seat of the Hays of Lochloy and Park. This was a very ancient branch of the house of Errol, and were Lairds of Park about 400 years. By their de-

\* John Hay, of Lochloy, who deceased in July, 1640, left his body to be buried in the burial place of his forbearis within the quair of Aulderne, and ordained ane loft to be biggit within the Kirk of Aulderne, on the north syd therof, with the timber gotten of the chanrie Kirk of Elgin. (*Kilravock Papers*. ED.)



clining, the lands of Inshoch and Park came into the family of Brodie about the beginning of this century. The lands of Park (in the west end of the parish) were sold about the year 1724 to Hugh Hay, after whose death they were, at a judicial sale in 1755, purchased by Sir Alexander Grant of Dalvey.

South-east of Inshoch is the house of Penick, the seat of, and built by Alexander Dunbar, Dean of Moray, or by his son. This was a part of the Priory lands of Urquhart, and the residence of the Dunbars of Grange, till about the 1680, when they sold Penick to the Laird of Brodie, and resided at Burgie. Next westward is Kinsterie, which (with Brightmonie contiguous to it) came from the Lauders to the Chisholms, and from them to the Sutherlands of Duffus. A branch of the family of Duffus were heritors of Kinsterie, which they sold about 50 years ago, and purchased Burrowsbridge and Myreside in Spynie parish, and took the title of Greenhall. James Sutherland late of Kinsterie, was a surveyor of the customs. The lands were long under sequestration for debt, but lately purchased by John Gordon of Clunie.

Close by the Church is the barony of Boath, the property of Alexander Dunbar, the oldest branch of the family of Durris, and possessors of that barony above 150 years. West from Boath is Kinudie; this was a part of the estate of

Park, and in 1741 and thence to 1621, Hay of Kinudie had the lands of Maine near Elgin. From the Hays, Kinudie came to the Urquharts, and in 1670 Hugh Rose of Kilravock purchased Kinudie, Hunterbog, &c., from Alexander Urquhart; and in 1767 they were sold by Kilravock to Mr. James Russel.

The upper part of the parish is high ground, and in the east end of it, is the barony of Moyness and Boghol. This was a part of the estate of Westfield, given to John Dunbar, a second son of that family, about the year 1584. And in 1634, Robert Dunbar, son of the said John, disposed these lands to John Grant of Loggie, whose son, James Grant, sold them to Sir Hugh Campbell of Calder in 1668, and they are now Calder's property. West from Moyness is the barony of Lethin; this was a part of the estate of Falconer of Hawkerton as early as the year 1295, and continued so, till soon after the year 1600, it was sold to John Grant of Fruechie, who about the 1613, built a large house, and there resided. His son Sir John Grant, after he came to the estate in 1622, sold this barony to Alexander Brodie, second son to David, Laird of Brodie. This gentleman likewise purchased the Abbey lands of Kinloss, from Bruce Lord Kinloss, and in 1630 purchased the lands of Pitgavenie from Alexander Hay of Kinudie. There has of late been built at Lethin, a fine modern house, which,



with the gardens, inclosures, and planting, makes a delightful seat.

#### AULDEARN.

[*Situation, Soil, Climate.*—The parish of Auldearn, on the eastern frontier of the county of Nairn, extends 6 miles westward along the coast, from the boundary of Dyke; and it is stretched to the same extent backward from the shore, meeting Ardcloch and Calder towards the south. The village of Auldearn, signifying in the Gaelic, *the aller brook*, although not entitled now to that appellation, is near the centre of the parish: it is also 20 miles from Elgin, and at the same distance from Inverness. A highway between these towns passes through it, more pleasant, in equal repair, and not longer than the post-road, conducted through a desert skirt on the outside of the parish.

The soil in the eastern quarter of the parish is a strong clay of a red colour; it produces luxuriant crops, but is of difficult cultivation: southward towards Ardcloch, it is a blacker mould, but not so fertile nor early. About the village the soil is light, and the crops are only weighty and full in rainy or moist summers. The northern side of the parish is a heavy cold loam, difficult to manage in a wet winter or spring.

Lord Cawdor's property is so much encumbered by baulks and stone, that its value might be raised more than one fifth by clearing properly the fields.

The climate, healthful, is generally serene and dry, but a little colder and more wet in the higher parts of the country.

*State of Property.*—The valued rent of the parish amounts to £7255 7d. Scots.

Lethin House, the family-seat of Miss Brodie, is a stately handsome edifice, pleasantly situated in a valley, and embellished by the rural decorations of gardens, enclosures, walks, and a great extent of wood on either hand, among which a number of majestic beeches form a striking appearance, by the bulky strength of the tall bole, and the lofty canopy of the spreading branches. The valued rent is £1100 Scots.

In a green dale, northward of the village, is the seat of

the ancient family of the Dunbars of Boath. It is pleasantly situated on the bank of a winding brook; the garden, plantation, and ornamental cultivation, decorate the environs of this handsome structure. The valued rent of the estate is £652 15s. 9d. The present Boath House was erected in 1830 by Sir James A. Dunbar, Bart.

James Brodie, of Brodie, Esq., is the proprietor of the barony of Inshoch; on which there is a ruined castle, and a considerable extent of natural birch-wood and full-grown fir plantation.

On the adjoining estate of Penick, originally a part of the lands of the Priory of Urquhart, there is a commodious old house of three stories, which, though for some years uninhabited, is in pretty good repair.

The valued rent of these estates is £1599 11s. Scots.

The lands of Blackhills, Raitlone, Leylands, with Moyness, Boghole, and Earl's Seat, valued at £1483 19s. 6d., appertain to Lord Cawdor.

The estate of Knockandie, valued at £96, is the property of Miss Ore of Nairn: and the rest of the parish, Kinudie, Kinsterie, Auldearn, and Park, appertain to Charles Gordon of Braid, Esq. On this property, valued at £2322 14s. 4d. Scots, there is an elegant country-seat, and more than 600 acres in wood, in groves, stripes, and extended plantations. The land is also greatly embellished and improved by drains, hedges, and enclosures; the fields have been cleared of every incumbrance; the larger stones burst by gunpowder; and the most substantial and perfect cultivation everywhere completed.

The real rent may rise above £3000 sterling. There are a few farms rented from £60 to £80; but the greater number from £10 to £26 sterling. The most fertile soils let from £1 5s. to £1 16s. the acre. The fields indeed are open; but the tenants would cheerfully give an adequate rise of rent, were substantial enclosures formed. About 2000 bolls of barley, and the same quantity of oats, may be disposed of yearly. The number of horses is 370. The black cattle are generally starved in the spring, and but poorly fed in the summer: their number is nearly 910. The sheep are of the small white-faced breed, and amount to about 1200. The village of Auldearn consists of 41 dwellings, which contain 185 inhabitants, whereof 4 are merchants, and 3 are inn keepers.



*State Ecclesiastical.*—During the Roman Catholic dispensation, Auldearn was the seat of the Dean of the Diocese of Moray. It may be presumed his office, first instituted in the year 1220 by Bishop Brice, obliged him to reside principally, with the other canons, at the Cathedral in Elgin. It does not appear that he had any other revenue but the tithes of Auldearn and Nairn, and the field at Elgin called the Dean's Crook, about 4 acres, now in the parish of Spynie. There is nothing known respecting the succession of the deans: their scanty revenue or remote situation might have prevented any of them, though of distinguished abilities, from attaining to eminence: it may be presumed, that the number of incumbents, after their institution, might be equal on the whole to that of the bishops.

In the year 1650, about the time when the formation of the parish of Kinloss was proposed, some parts of the skirts of Auldearn were more commodiously annexed to Nairn, Calder, and Ardelach.

In the year 1773, the Presbytery of Nairn, which, together with that county, is here to be considered, was established by the decree of the General Assembly, conjoining Auldearn, Nairn, and Ardelach, from the Presbytery of Forres, to Calder and Croy from that of Inverness, and to Airdersier from the Presbytery of Chanonry, of the Synod of Ross, upon the other side of the Firth, with which it had been incommodiously classed.

The Church, a modern building, in the village, is conjoined to the walls of a ruined steeple; yet, like a house with but one chimney, stands disfigured by the characteristic of Caledonian frugality, the meanly looking belfry.

The stipend, including the allowance for the Communion, is £48 15s. 6d., 54 bolls of meal, and 48 of bear, with 14 wedders, generally converted at 3s. 6d. each, being paid when only one year old. Eleven shillings of the money is paid from the Dean's Crook, probably the original rent (10 merks Scots), which has been ever retained. The right of patronage appertains to Mr. Brodie of Brodie. The salary of the school is 16 bolls in meal and bear, and the customary fees of about 30 scholars, and the fee of the Session-Clerk, about £3, with the customary perquisites. The provision for the poor, contributed in the usual

manner by the people amounts to about £10 yearly, to which is added £4 16s., arising from the interest of a capital saved by the parsimony of the Session during the last incumbency, distributed annually among 50 persons, or occasionally as the necessities of any may require.

The members of the National Church amount to 1309, and there are 97 dissenters of the Antiburgher Sect of Seceders: joined by a few of their brethren in the neighbouring parishes, they support a clergyman of their own sort: his residence and chapel are at Boghole, on the frontiers of Edinkielie, where one of the same sect has lately opened a school at the common rates, and partly by its novelty, and partly by its remote situation from the Established schools, this seminary has been hitherto well attended: but the zeal of the Session waxes gradually more cold.

*Miscellaneous Information.*—The people rest their virtue in the observance of devotional rather than in the discharge of moral duties. From the strictest attention to the last they believe themselves set free, by formal and prolonged exercises of the first. Many on this account make long pilgrimages to attend those popular preachers, who inculcate chiefly the efficacy of Faith, and delight to dwell on the merits of the Atonement; and although the people in general deem every gratification of sense to be sinful in some degree, yet petty thefts among them are not uncommon. Flagrant immoralities, however, and disgraceful profligacy, are carefully eschewed; and they err rather through illiberal and inveterate prejudice, than from want of principle, or through depravity of mind.

It is ascertained that an almost inexhaustible store of pure rich marle is contained in the moss and lake of Litie, on the property of Lord Cawdor. It extends over a space of 40 acres, and is from 16 to 20 feet deep. It would not be costly to drain off the water: and Mr. Gordon of Braid has shown the beneficial effects of similar marle on his estate of Kinsterie, in his crops of corn, turnip, and grass.

It appears probable to people skilled in opening coal pits, that this useful mineral might be found in the grounds between Boath and the shore. There is a quarry wrought of dark blue stone, which, like coal, flames in the fire; yet its bulk was not diminished, nor on the



application of water, does it fall into a powder like lime-stone calcined.

Large fir trees are dug in the tracts of peat earth in different parts of the parish. Some have been found 60 feet in length, and in diameter nearly 3; they are used in the roofing of houses.

Under the bank, which, it has been said, ranges along the coast from Dyke nearly to Inverness, there is in this parish a lake [Loch Loy] about a mile in length, but less than the half of that in breadth; it is below the level of the sea, of which it seems to have been once a part: by the drifting of the sand, it is still more and more diminished both in extent and depth, though it still retains more than 7 fathoms of water.

The temples of the Druids, pretty numerous over all this quarter of the country, bear evidence of its having been inhabited from very remote antiquity. An artificial green mount near the Church, though called the Castle-hill, is generally supposed to have been accumulated for the court of civil justice, when these temples of the Druids were forsaken. And it may be presumed, that if justice was not always obtained, yet it must have cost less when administered on a green mount, in the open air, than in a splendid hall, on cushioned chairs, ermined robes of state, and fantastic wigs.

There are three annual fairs in the village, where black cattle is always the staple. That on the 21st of June was established on the Festival of St. Columba, and is yet called St. Colm's market.

The village is distinguished as the field of one of the celebrated victories of the Marquis of Montrose in 1645, for Charles I. endeavouring to establish Prelacy in Scotland, and despotism over all the empire. If it be at any time for the good of a nation, or for the happiness of a people, to commence a civil war, it must be to oppose the practical establishment of the doctrine of passive obedience and non-resistance: yet that generation involved themselves in calamities much more deplorable than any which they feared from the king; and after all, they tamely yielded up those rights to an upstart usurper, for the defence of which they had rebelled against and murdered a respectable prince, the representative of a long line of their National monarchs.

The inhabitants of Moray in that age were adverse to the measures of the Court, respecting both the Church and State. Montrose therefore plundered, burned, and destroyed the whole country, in a progress from Inverness, particularly the estates and houses of Brodie of Lethin, and Brodie of Brodie, Dunbar of Grangehill, Kinnaird of Culbin, Burgie, Duffus, Garmach, Innes, and Redhall, destroying also the nets and boats, to ruin the fishery of Spey. Faster-eve's market at Elgin was that year given up, for the fear of this gallant plunderer: and the most substantial people of the town, abandoning their houses, fled with their families and most valuable effects to the Castle of Spynie, at that time a tenable fortress. In this situation, the forces of the people, under Lieutenant General Urry, rendezvous at Inverness. In a casual skirmish, as the troops marched onward, a young gentleman of the King's party, Mr. Gordon of Rhynie, being wounded, retired for his recovery to the house of a friend at Struthers near Forres, and he was there murdered by a party of the people from Elgin, under the conduct of the young knight of Innes, zealous against Prelacy and non-resistance, hastening to join the army at Inverness. Montrose followed after to Auldearn, with 1500 foot, and 250 horse; where he was met by Urry and many of the chiefs of the people, with an army of 3500 men and 400 horse. From before such superior powers Montrose was inclined to retreat: but that was extremely hazardous, by the approach of General Baillie from behind, with an army still better appointed. He was, therefore, obliged to try the fate of a battle, in which the superiority of numbers was in a great degree compensated by the advantage of the ground. Montrose concealed the greater part of his forces behind the village, at that time on the height covering the valley below, in which he placed a chosen band, protected by an earthen fence. He gave the command of the right wing to Colonel Alexander Macdonald, placed also in a situation protected by banks, dykes, bushes, and great stones. There the Royal standard was displayed, to entice the enemy to waste the exertion of their best forces, where it must be impotent from the situation of the ground, commanding the Colonel to keep within his strength, notwithstanding any provocation which the enemy might give. Lord Gordon led the



cavalry, and himself took the charge of the rest of the infantry, drawn up into the left wing, forming no main army, unless the chosen band stationed before the village might be so termed. This the van of the army of the people attacked, bending at the same time, as had been foreseen, their best strength against the right wing and the Royal standard, pouring in fresh supplies of men, relieving the troops that were spent. While this suggested to Montrose the idea of a general attack, he was privately informed that the right wing were put to flight: "My Lord," he cried aloud to the leader of the horse, dissembling to arouse the spirit of his men, "Macdonald routs the enemy on the right: let him not carry off the glory of the day: let us also give a general and a vigorous charge." This the cavalry of Urry were unable to sustain; in their rout they even disordered the foot, whose flank they left also exposed: for some time, however, they bore against the shock, but were at last also forced into flight. And Montrose thereupon hastened to support Macdonald, who in the ardour of the onset had rashly advanced from his strength, to which, however, undismayed he re-conducted his men, covering their retreat himself, protected by an ample shield, and defended by a keen sword. The horse which had encountered him, perceiving the rout of their fellows, and the conquerors advancing on themselves, fled after with most cowardly precipitation; but the veteran foot maintained their ground till almost every man fell in his rank, and the victory of Montrose was to his utmost wish complete, with the loss only of 20 of his men. 2000 of the enemy's were slain; many prisoners were taken; the whole baggage, much wealth and ammunition, and 16 standards were won: but the horse, by their inglorious flight, were for the most part unhurt. Montrose returned southwards, plundering and burning the country as he passed; the estate, in particular, of the family of Cawdor, and their houses in the town of Nairn; and for avenging the murder of Rhynie's son, the houses of that party, in the town of Elgin, were also rifled and burned, by which other houses of the town were at the same time incidentally destroyed.]

(*Survey of the Province of Moray*.) [See also *Browne's Hist. of the Highlands*, I. 382.]

[The Rev. William Barclay, Minister of the parish from

1814 till the *Disruption*, spent time and money in caring for ancient gravestones and monuments which were lying waste in the Churchyard. Among such, he caused to be re-lettered a Tablet and Tombstone which commemorated some of the heroic Covenanters who were slain at the Battle of Auldearn. The Tablet is in the Choir of the old Church, and has this Inscription:—

This Monument is erected be Sir Robert Innes, younger of that ilk, in memorie of Sir Alexander Dromond, of Medhope, Sir Johne Morray, and Maister Gideon Morray, who lies heir intered, who, fighting valiantly in defence of their religione, king, and native countray, died at Auldearn, the 8 May, 1645.

The Tombstone bears this:—

Heir lyeth Captain Bernard M'Kenzie, who, in defence of his religion and countrie feighting, died at Auldearn, the 8 of May an. 1645.

I now come to

#### THE PARISH OF NAIRN,

In Irish *Invernairn*. The river Nairn riseth in the hills between Stratherick and the Braes of Strathern, and running north-east through the parishes of Dunlichty and Deviot, it turneth almost due north, and dischargeth into the Frith at the town of Nairn, after a course of above 20 miles. It is called Nairn, from the Alder trees growing on the banks of it. *Uisge-Nearn*, is the Water of Alders.

The Town standeth at the mouth of the river on the west side, and is one street from east to west. At the east end there is a Bridge of three arches upon the river, built by William Rose of Clava in the year 1631\* In the middle of the

\* [It sustained great damage, first from a flood in 1782, and



town standeth the Tolbooth and Town-House; and at the west end, Kilravock has a good house of modern architecture.\* A little above the bridge, on the bank of the river, is the Castle Hill, where stood a Royal Fort (now quite demolished), whereof the Thanes of Calder were the hereditary constables. Within the flood-

next from the great flood in 1829. An inscription upon a stone of it, which long ago fell into the river, was *Gulielmus Rose de Clava*, with the motto *Non est Salus, nisi in Christo: Soli Deo gloria*—i.e., There is no salvation but in Christ: Glory to God alone.] (ED.)

\* In 1711 begin accounts for repairs done on the Kilravock house in Nairn, where Kilravock younger, or, as he now began to be styled, Geddes, usually resided. The repairs extended over several years, and were not completed probably till 1722. Over the door of this tall, gaunt old house, which has but comparatively lately been denuded of its quaint "fore-stair," are still legible the Initials of the young laird, and his second wife, Jean Ross of Broadley, and the date of 1722, with some doggerel not inapplicable:—

1 H. R. 7

2 J. R. 2

Omnia terrena per vices sunt aliena,  
Nunc mea, nunc hujus, post mortem nescio cujus;  
Nulli certa domus.

Of which a loose scrap among these domestic Papers gives this translation, "by Mr Allan"—

"Allterrene things by turns we see  
Become another's property;  
Mine now must be another's soon;  
I know not whose, when I am gone;  
An earthly house is bound to none."

On the 27th April, 1769, George Munro, clockmaker, Edinburgh, advises the Magistrates of Nairn that he has shipped, by Colonel Hector Munro's orders (their M.P.), a new steeple clock for the town. He assures them that he has "proved the clock, and it goes well, and he believes it to be as good a clock as is in Scotland for its size. (ED.)

mark are some vestiges, called the Pier-end ; but the mouth of the river is now so barred, that no vessels, but fishing boats for salmon and white fish, can enter.

The Church standeth on the bank of the river, 2 miles west from Aldearn, 5 miles east from Ardersier, 3 miles north from Calder, and 4 miles N.N.E. from Croy. The lands contiguous to the town are the property of Rose of Kilravock, Rose of Newton, and Rose of Clava. Mr. Rose of Clava, in 1768, sold all his lands in Nairn, Croy, and Ardelach, to Sir Alexander Grant of Dalvey. Westward on the coast are the lands of Delnies, held, in mortgage, by Alexander Campbell of Delnies, of the laird of Calder. These were a part of the Church lands of Ross, and David Panitar, bishop of Ross, disposed Denlies and Ardersier, anno 1556, to his brother - uterine Robert Lesly, from whose son John Campbell of Calder purchased them in 1575. On the side of the river, a mile south of the town, is Kildrummie, the seat of Hugh Rose of Brae; these lands were sold by Patrick Hepburn Bishop of Moray, to Hugh Rose of Kilravock, in 1545. (*Pen. Kilr.*)

On the east side of the river, near the coast, is Belmakeith, the property of Alexander Dunbar of Boath, and holding feu of Calder. William Thane of Calder was infeft in Belmakeith anno 1442 (*Pen. Cald.*) Next up the river is Braidley. This was, for some generations, the pro-



perty of Rose of Braidley. John Rose, the last of that family (and father of Jean Rose, late lady dowager of Kilravock), having no male issue, sold his lands to Alexander Gordon of Ardach, from whom they were purchased, about the year 1726, by Hugh Rose of Kilravock. Further up the river is the Barony of Geddes, the patrimonial estate of Rose of Kilravock and Geddes (*Vide Rose of Kilravock*).

Close by Geddes is Raite Castle. Here is an old Fort, built in the form of a square, which was anciently the seat of Raite of that Ilk, who, having killed Andrew Thane of Calder about the year 1404, was banished that county, and founded the family of Raite of Halgreen in the Mearns. A part of Raite was Calder's property in 1442 (*Pen. Cald.*); another part of it with Meikle Geddes, was the property of Ogilvie of Carnoustie, from whom Sir John Campbell of Calder made the purchase anno 1432 (*Ibid.*)\* South of Raite lye the lands of Urchany, once a part of the estate of Park. John Hay of Kinnudie sold them to Chisholm of Comer, in 1620; and Sir

\* Two miles east of Cawdor, and near the House of Geddes are the ruins of *Raite's Castle*, anciently the seat of the Macintoshes of Raits. The castellated part is gone, but a religious edifice, apparently of a more modern date than it could have been, remains. At the south corner it is terminated by a round Tower (lately formed into a dovecot) resembling those attached to the bishop's palace at Kirkwall and Spynie. Close by is a small but interesting vitrified fort, called *Castle Finlay*. (Ed.)

Hugh Campbell of Calder purchased them in 1660.

NAIRN.

[*Situation, Soil, Climate.*—From the borders of the parish of Auldearn, Nairn stretches 6 miles westward along the Frith, and it extends backward into the country about 8. It is intersected by the river, which imparts its name to the parish and to the town, denoting in the Gaelic, *the water of allers*; its banks, to a considerable extent, having been covered with that species of wood. The ground on the north side of the river spreads out a level plain to the shore of the Frith; on the other it rises in a gentle acclivity, terminating towards the southern corner in a considerable eminence, named, from the adjoining lands, the Hill of Urchany. In the environs of the town, and along the coast, the soil is sandy; the same kind of soil is continued on the banks of the river, but greatly mixed with clay, and the country on its southern side is of a rich and heavy mould.

*State of Property.*—The parish is possessed by five proprietors, excluding the grounds appertaining to the community, and the small heritages about the burgh. Kildrummy and Torrich, part of the estate of Kilravock, are valued in the Cess-Roll of the county at £273 5s. 11d. Scots. The barony of Geddes and Allanhall are valued at £412 0s. 11d. Scots. The lands of Dalnies, mortgaged to Mr. Campbell by the family of Cawdor, are valued at £204 2s. 3d. And Belmakeith, appertaining to Mr. Dunbar of Boath, is valued at £129 4s. 3d. The rest of the country part of the parish appertains to Lord Cawdor, which, with the salmon-fishery, is valued at £462 5s. 9d. Scots; extending the whole valued rent of the parish, with the valuation of the burgh lands, about £500 Scots, to £1980, 19s. 1d. The number of farms are about 50, and of inconsiderable extent, generally not exceeding £20 sterling of rent, there being only two equal to £50 sterling. In the immediate vicinity of the town, the acre rents at £1 15s. sterling; farther distant, from 18s. to £1 10s.; and in the country, from 5s to £1.

The salmon-fishery on the river (a branch of which is carried on likewise in the salt water, near its influx, distinguished by the epithet of *still-fishing* from the



silent mode of conducting it, by a signal, in the smooth water) is the joint property of Colonel Cuming Gordon of Altyr and Mr. Davidson of Cantray. It is separately occupied by their tenants, at the rent of £36 sterling from each, and is alternately carried on in the river and in the sea. Mr. Brodie of Brodie has also a still-fishery on the east side of the river, at the rent of £8 sterling. There are 6 boats in the town and 2 in the country for the sea fish, in each of which 7 men are employed. Besides the species of fish got eastward in the Frith already mentioned, they generally find some herring in every season, for which they must, however, go as far west as the influx of the Ness. Previous to the year 1782, all kinds of fish were found in plenty just opposite to the town; at present they are sometimes not to be got nearer than the coasts of Sutherland and Caithness.

The town is pleasantly and commodiously situated on the west bank of the river, near the shore of the Frith. The Jail and Town House are on the middle of the street, from which many narrow lanes extend to the river on the one side, and to an extensive plain of fertile corn field, of more than 400 acres on the other. The first Charter, now extant, is the grant of James VI. in the year 1589, bearing to be the renewal of a charter by Alexander I. The revenue of the burgh arises from a considerable extent of moor, let on various leases to be improved, by which a considerable increment will in due time be made. Some feu-duties are likewise derived from the burgh-lands, and from the tolls of 6 stated Fairs in the year, and the weekly market. The government of the burgh is committed to 17; the Provost and 3 Bailies, Dean of Guild, and Treasurer, with 11 Counsellors. As the gentlemen of the town are not numerous enough for the requisite annual changes, gentlemen from the country are admitted into the Magistracy; but the Bailies, Dean of Guild, and Cashier, by a late decision of the House of Peers, must be resident in the town.

The whole Trades are formed into one Incorporation.

*State Ecclesiastical.*—The Church and Burying-ground are on the south side of the town, washed by the river. The stipend, including the allowance for the Communion, is £32 sterling, and 5 chalders of bear. The right of patronage appertains to Mr. Brodie of Brodie. The salary

of the parochial school is 16 bolls of bear, and the customary perquisites of office. It has been for many years in a very flourishing state. The number of scholars sent from all quarters of the country, and some occasionally from England, is seldom below 80, and often upwards of 100. All the branches of education carried on in the academies are taught with ability and success. There is also in the town a school for girls, where the customary branches of female education are properly conducted; the salary paid by the community is £10 and a house. The Roll of the poor amounts to the number of 150. The provision collected in the Church for their support, about £8 sterling yearly, and a small sum bearing interest, admits only of one dividend in the year; but the extremely needy receive occasional supply. The number of inhabitants are 2400, of whom about 1100 appertain to the burgh. There are several families of Antiburgher Seceders, and a few of the Episcopalian persuasion.

*Miscellaneous Information.*—On the south side of the town, on the bank of the river, is the Castlehill, where stood a Royal Fort, of which the Thanes of Cawdor were hereditary constables till the year 1747. The constabulary garden is still distinguished as an article of the valuation of the estate, to the extent of £3 10s. Scots. At a very remote period of antiquity, the Castle was situated nearer to the shore, upon the influx of the river; which, similar to the Spey and Findhorn, then flowed half a mile farther westward along the shore than its present termination. There are some persons still alive who remember to have seen, at spring-tides, vestiges of its foundation, at present a considerable way within the bed of the ocean.

The Chapel of the Virgin Mary, built at Geddes in the year 1220, has ever been the Burial-place of the Family of Kilravock. The Burial-ground around it is also still in use. In 1475 Pope Sextus IV. granted a discharge for 100 days Penance for every visit to this Chapel on certain high Festivals, and also for a certain extent of donation for the repairs of the building.

The county of Nairn consists of 4 parishes, with some inconsiderable corners of some that are contiguous of the county of Inverness. In the representation in Parliament, it is conjoined with the county of Cromarty, on the opposite side of the Frith; each electing their commis-



sioner alternately. The office of the Sheriff was hereditary in the family of Cawdor till the year 1647, when it was made a part of the Sherifdom of Moray. And with the common County Courts, that also of the Sheriff, by his Substitute, is regularly maintained in the town.] (*Survey of the Province of Moray.*)

Following the course of the river Nairn, I now come to

THE PARISH OF CALDER OR CAWDOR,

So called from *Cale*, a wood, and *Dur*, water; for here is a fine wood, with a brook of water on each side of it. The parish is bounded by the river Nairn to the west, and by the hills towards the Streins to the south-east.

The Church standeth near the centre, from north to south, and is a neat little fabric, ornamented with a steeple and a clock. A furlong east from the Church is the House of Calder, the seat of John Campbell of Calder. The Thaness of Calder, as constables of the King's house, resided in the Castle of Nairn, and had a country seat at what is now called Old Calder, a half-mile north from the present seat. There they had a house on a small moat, with a dry ditch and a drawbridge, the vestiges whereof are to be seen. But, by a Royal licence, dated 6th August 1454, they built the Tower of Calder that now standeth. It is built upon a rock of freestone, washed by a brook to the west, and on the other sides having a dry ditch, with a draw-bridge.

The Tower stands between two courts of buildings. Tradition beareth, that the Thane was directed in a dream to build the Tower round a hawthorn-tree on the bank of the brook. Be this as it will, there is in the lowest vault of the Tower the trunk of a hawthorn-tree, firm and sound, growing out of the rock, and reaching to the top of the vault. Strangers are brought to stand round it, each one to take a chip of it, and then to drink to the *Hawthorn-tree*—i.e., “Prosperity to the Family of Calder.” This House, with spacious enclosures, fine gardens, a park of red deer, and a large wood close by the house, make a grand and delightful seat.

[The Donjon or Vault is about 10 feet high, and the Hawthorn reaches to the top. There is no doubt that the walls must have been built around it. An old iron chest lies beside the tree, which is said to have borne the precious burden of gold. Two other old hawthorn trees grew within a few score yards, in a line with the castle—one in the garden, which fell about 80 years since, and the other at the entrance to the Castle, which was blown down after a gradual decay, in 1836. Some suckers are yet fenced. King Duncan’s chain-armour is kept in this vault—if it be correct that he was murdered here, for there are four other localities assigned for the scene—viz., Glammis Castle, Inverness Castle, and a hut near Forres, or a hut near Elgin. Some part of the great Tower of Glammis may be as old as the 13th century, but no portion of Cawdor is older than the 15th century, so that the time when they were built was more distant from the days of Macbeth on the one side, than those of Queen Victoria on the other. Indeed, had we any actual building of Macbeth’s day in Scotland, it would not be invested with so much tragic gloom, nor could it so appropriately associate itself with deeds of



horror ; for it would probably be made of wicker ware or slight timber, and be in all respects unfit to represent the proper stage-properties of a tyrant's stronghold, and the scene of a Royal murder. Yet, not many years ago, scepticism was put to utter shame at Cawdor, by being shewn the identical four-posted bed in which the murder of King Duncan was committed, of a fashion so old that no respectable upholsterer of the 19th century, even in Inverness or Forres, would have tamely submitted to the scandal of having constructed it. The room, and the bed within it, were both burned by an accidental fire in 1815 ; thereby depriving all future visitors of so very interesting an exhibition of traditional identifications.

Shakspeare and his commentators, following the authority of Buchanan, assign Macbeth's Castle at Inverness as the tragic *locale*. In the places mentioned (except the two huts) Macbeth had his strongholds ; as, on his marriage, he became, in right of his wife Gruock, Maormor or great Celtic lord of Moray ; having by birth the same power attached to that name in the adjoining county of Ross. King Duncan was betrayed and slain while residing at one of his nephew's castles, on his way to reduce Porfin, the Scandinavian Earl of Caithness, to submission ; he having refused to surrender the customary tribute to the Scottish Crown. Malcolm (King Duncan's eldest son, and afterwards called Caenmore, or big-head) fled, on his father's murder, to England, where he was received by King Edward the Confessor. He waited at the English Court until the dissensions between the usurper Macbeth and the Scottish nobles gave him a favourable opportunity of recovering his inheritance. Then he sallied forth across the Borders, supported by an English army of 10,000, under the command of his maternal grandfather, Siward, Earl of Northumberland. Macbeth's inveterate foe, the Thane of Fife, raising the standard at the same time for the lawful monarch, entered Angusshire, and encountered and defeated his great enemy near his own Castle of Dunsinane.

Such is the bare outline of facts on which the deeply exciting tragedy of Macbeth was reared by Shakspeare.

*Cawdor Castle* is still inhabited—perched upon a low rock overhanging the bed of a Highland torrent, and

surrounded on all sides by the largest-sized forest trees, which partly conceal the extent of its park. It stands a relic of the work of several ages, a weather-beaten Tower, encircled by comparatively newer and less elevated dwellings, the whole being enclosed within a moat, and approachable only by a drawbridge which rattles on its chains just as in the years long by. The staircase—its ancient tapestry hanging over secret doors and hidden passages, the iron-grated doors and wickets, the large baronial kitchen, partly formed out of the native rock, the hall, the old furniture, the carved mantel-pieces, the quantity of figured tapestry, and even the grotesque family mirrors in use 200 years ago—are still cherished and preserved by the family. The drawbridge and gateway (overtopped by a belfry with bell) are worthy of notice.

In one of the compartments is a carved stone chimney-piece, having the family arms and several grotesque figures; among which are a cat playing the fiddle, a monkey blowing a horn, a mermaid playing a harp, a huntsman with hounds pursuing a hare, &c. One of these rude representations is that of a fox smoking a tobacco pipe. On the Stone is engraved the date 1510, when this wing of the Castle was erected. Tobacco was first introduced into this country by Sir Walter Raleigh about 1585; and it is singular to find the common short tobacco pipe thus represented at the above period. The fox holds "the fragrant tube" in his mouth exactly as it is held by its human admirers, and the implement is such as may be seen every day with those who patronise the "cutty pipe."

It is doubtful when the Saxon-like title "Thane of Cawdor" was first assumed; but it occurs with the name of the adjoining Thanedom of Moyness in an authentic document in 1295. There is no question as to Malcolm Caenmore having allotted large estates to the English and Flemish knights who assisted him in recovering his native possessions, and that they surnamed themselves after the appellations of the lands thus acquired.

In a charter, still extant in the charter-chest of the Castle, dated at Forres, 22nd July 1236, in the 22nd year of the reign of Alexander II., his Majesty grants the lands of Both and Banchory, in the balliary of Invernarn or Nairn, "*Gilberto Hostiario*," which words, by a stupid



misreading, are marked by a modern scribe on the back as "*Gilberto Horstrat*." Upon this mistake, which was unfortunately copied by *Shaw* (whose valuable *History* we are editing), a ludicrous idea prevailed that the family name at first was *Horse-trot*! The charter alluded to was attested by Walter Fitzallan, the Justiciar of Scotland; Walter Comyn (whose family name was afterwards to be so tragically connected with Scottish history), Walter Bysset (who was the old Norman possessor of the territories which subsequently belonged to the Lovat family), Henry Beliol, and Allan Durward. The charter is in favour of Gilbert Durward or Doreward, whose Latinised name *Ostiarius* or *Hostiarius* in English is Door-ward. The powerful family of Ostiarii, or hereditary *Doorwards* of the king, held large possessions in Mar, and obtained Macbeth's estates in Nairnshire; and, probably, by assuming the name of *Calder*, one of them came to be regarded as the first Thane of that ilk. The Thaneage of Calder (now pronounced *Cawdor*) included not only the principal messuage lands, but also the barony of Ferintosh in Ross, and several parts of Stratherrick, Strathnairn, and Strathdearn, and a large portion of the lands of Glammis in the Mearns, all of which were hence politically, and for several other purposes, considered as pertinents of the Sheriffdom of Nairn.

In 1859 a most valuable series of Papers was printed by the late Earl of Cawdor, titled "The Book of the Thanes of Cawdor, from 1236 to 1742," pp. 471, issued by The Spalding Club, and edited by Prof. Cosmo Innes.

*Cawdor Castle* is indeed a fertile spot for the romantic and imaginative. The mysteries of *Udolpho* would vanish in contemplation of the less perspicuous intricacies of Cawdor. Immediately beneath the rafters, in one part of the many artfully contrived secrecies, is pointed out the concealment of the famous Lord Lovat, who was in flight from his pursuers. By means of a ladder the tourist is conducted by the side of one part of a sloping roof into a kind of channel between two roofs, such as frequently serves for conveying rain-water into pipes for a reservoir. By proceeding along this channel he arrives at the foot of a stone-staircase, which leads up one side of the roof to the right, which is so artfully contrived as to appear a part of the ornaments of the building when

beheld at a distance. At the end of this staircase is a room with a single window near the floor. Lord Lovat (it is said) used to be conducted to this place when his pursuers approached, the ladder being removed as soon as he ascended. When the search was over, and the enquirers gone, the ladder was replaced, by which means his Lordship lived comfortably with the family, and might long have done so.

It is a pity to put a stumbling-block in the path of innocent credulity, but Lord Lovat was not found concealed at Cawdor Castle, but far to the west; and, to reach Cawdor, he must needs leave his own choice fortresses in the wilds of Inverness, and pass through a territory bristling with Royal troops. Was this likely?

Attached to the residences of the Thanes of Old Cawdor was a Chapel dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, and the Chaplain of Cawdor, or "the Thane's Chaplain," appears as a witness in early documents. When the new Castle was built, a Chapel was included in it. In the same year (1467) with the induction of Sir Walter of Tarbett in the Chapelry of the Castle, his patron William, Thane of Cawdor, died. The Castle-Chapel is said to have stood on the south side of the Tower.

An ancient Bell, like "the Ronnell" of Birnie, of square shape, of hammered iron, clasped with nails, is still preserved at Cawdor, the only relic of the old Castle Chapel. It is 13 inches high, including the square iron handle.

The Cawdors of old buried at Barevan. The walls of the old Church are still comparatively entire, though the chiselled stones have been mostly taken away. The style is of the First Pointed, without cusp. One window on the south of the choir is curious, from the top of the arches and of the mullion being formed of a single stone. It has been a double lancet outside, and semi-circular arched inside. The dimensions of Barevan Church inside are about 65 feet long by 17 feet broad. There is a plain *Piscina* under an arch at the south side, as usual, where the Altar stood. There are many old Gravestones, and there is one row right across the Church, where the Choir and Nave joined, having no inscriptions nor arms.

The following occurs in an Indenture, of date the 30th November, 1725:—"As to the *Church of Calder*, which



was built by Sir Hugh Campbell's grandfather, Sir John, being the only heritor except Ross of Holme, a small heritor; the roof thereof is entirely rott and many of the slate fallen off, never being repaired since the erection thereof, except three or four couples furnisht in Sir Hugh's time, when the pricket or top of the steeple was by storm blown over and broke these couples; needs to be immediately repaired, and will cost double the money if it is delayed ane other year. The sacrament not being administrat for the years 1722-25, Sir Archibald has retained the element money, which, being yearly £50 Scots, amounts to £150, and proposes that the said sum be applyed in the first place towards the repair, which he shall finish as effectually and frugally as possible.

"The families new buriall place, which lyes under that part betwixt the steeple and the body of the Church, is much abused, and like to goe to ruin altogether by the insufficient roof of the Church; and the old burial place called Barrivan, of the Thanes, and all the Campbells of Calder who dyed in the north preceding Sir Hugh's time, where formerly the old Kirk of Calder was, likewise needs to be repaired, which Sir Archibald conceives may be done for £10 sterline, which he expects the commissioners will comply with, for the honour and memory of the family. . . .

"Sir Archibald has sett up a handsome large clock in the steeple of the Church of Calder." ] (Ed.)

A small pendicle in the south of the parish, called Drumurnie, is the property of Rose of Holm. The lands of Meikle Budzeat, west of the Church, the lands of Torrich, a mile to the east, and the lands of Clunies two miles to the south-east, are mortgages pertaining to the descendants of this family, and all holding of Calder.

#### CALDER.

[*Situation, Soil, Climate.*—Calder, derived from the Gaelic *coil*, wood, and *dur*, water, is connected with

Nairn on the north, and Croy on the south. It meets with Auldearn and Ardelach at the east, and extends southward to the confines of Moy and Duthil. Its southern quarter is enlivened by the river Findhorn, and part of its northern side by that of the Nairn, to which the stream of Calder, partly in a deep rocky channel, thickly shrouded with wood, a variety of forest trees, hastens from the west. The flat plain of the lower part of the parish, as it stretches southward, rises into a hilly tract, and elevates its boundary with Moy into a lofty mountain. The soil, in general neither wet nor deep, may be described as kindly, sharp and fertile, diversified in the lower part with plots of moorish and rocky ground; in the higher it is more generally brown heath, covering extensive tracts of the peat morass. The air is accounted remarkably salubrious.

*State of Property.*—The parish, chiefly in the county of Nairn, with a small part in that of Inverness, extends its total valuation to the sum of £1963 12s. Scots, of which the property of Lord Cawdor, comprehending Auchendune, Torrich, Inchgeddle, and Streens, amounts to the valuation of £1565 12s. 10d. This is the family-seat and original residence of the ancient Thanes. Similar to the Mansion of Kilravock, a modern building has been conjoined to an ancient Tower, built by Royal licence in the year 1454, guarded on the west by the deep rocky defile of the stream of Cawdor, and surrounded on the other sides by a ditch and drawbridge. The environs, it has been noticed, as its name imports, are naturally embellished by the landscape scenery of wood and water; and they have been also improved by the decorations of art. In the lowest vault of the Tower, the trunk of a hawthorn tree still stands in the original station where it grew out of the rock, over which tradition relates that a dream, directing the situation of the fabric, promised prosperity to the race whilst it should remain.

The lands of Clunes and Torbey, mortgaged to Dr. Campbell, are valued at £114 7s. 2d., to which the valuation of his estate of Budzeat, in the county of Inverness, of £160 Scots, is also to be added. Mr. Rose of Holm has Drumurnie, valued in the whole at £123 12s., of which a part, amounting to £50, appertains to the county of Inverness. The real rent may be at present estimated



about £1200 sterling, arising from about 4500 cultivated acres, rented from 2s. 6d. to 15s. the acre; to these are conjoined about 3500 under wood, broom, and natural pasturage; the remainder is moor and mountain peat, about 18,000. The extent of the farms are from 40 to 100 acres; and about 70 ploughs are employed in their cultivation.

*State Ecclesiastical.*—The old name of the parish was *Borivon*, properly Bar Ewan; literally denoting *Ewan's height*, or *high country*; and figuratively *excellent*, or St. Ewan, to whom the parsonage was dedicated. The Church originally stood in the southern or highest quarter of the parish, till about the year 1619; and 30 years after it was moved into its present central station, a wing from the parish of Auldearn was annexed at the east. The value of the living, including 20 bolls of bear and 20 of meal, is equal to £80 sterling. The right of patronage appertains to Lord Cawdor. The salary of the school is 8 bolls of bear and 8 of meal, and £1 5s. as the Clerk of the Session, with the official perquisites, and the dues of education from about 50 scholars, the mean number through the year. The poor upon the roll amount to 40, and the provision for their necessities about £12 yearly, arising from the contribution of 850 persons, the members of the National Church; there being only one Episcopalian and one Seceder in the parish.

*Miscellaneous Information.*—The people in general are humane, moral, and religious, there being few law-suits or quarrels among them; they are very industrious. They dispose of a considerable quantity of victual at Inverness, Nairn, and Fort George, where their fat cattle and sheep are likewise sold; they discover no propensity for the military life, in which, or in the navy, very few engage; they are contented with their situation, and discover no desire to leave the parish, although every other year a few lads, as adventurers, apprentices, or servants, seek their fortunes in Edinburgh, London, or America; they complain of the uncertainty of their leases; and they are troubled by the caprice, wantonness, and extravagance of the farm-servants.] (*Survey of the Province of Moray.*)

I shall here give some account of

THE FAMILY OF CALDER.

The surname of Calder is local, taken from the place; and the family has been among the most ancient and the most considerable in the North. About the year 1040, the tyrant Macbeth cut off the Thane of Nairn (*Buchanan*). This, no doubt, was the Thane of Calder; for no history or tradition mentioneth a Thane of Nairn, distinct from the Thane of Calder, who, as Constable, resided in that town; and Mr. Heylin, in his Geography, expressly calleth him Thane of Calder. But not to deal in uncertainties, (1) Dovenaldus Thanus de Calder was one of the estimators of the Baronies of Kilravock and Geddes, anno 1295. His son (2) William had from King Robert Bruce, 7mo Augusti anno regni 4to 1310, "Thanageum de Kaledor, infra vicecomitatum de Inner Nairn, propter servitia debita et assueta tempore Alexandri Regis predecessoris nostri ultimo defuncti," \* (*Pen. Cald.*) His son (3) Andrew was killed by Sir Alexander Raite, whose son (4) Donald was served heir to his father, Andrew, in 1405, and saised in the offices of Sheriff and Constable of Nairn in 1406 (*Ibid.*) He purchased the lands of Dunmaglass from

\* *Translation*—The Thanedom of Calder, Constable of Inner Nairn, on account of services due and assuetudes in the time of King Alexander, our last defunct predecessor.



William Menzies of Balwhonzie in 1414; the lands of Moy, in Moray, from the Earl of Ross, in 1419; and Urchany-beg, in Calder, from Henry, Bishop of Moray, in 1421 (*Ibid.*) His son (5) William was in 1442 infeft in the Thaneage of Calder, the Sheriffship and Constablenesship of Nairn, in Boath, Benchir, half of Raite, and six merks out of Belmakeith (*Pen. Cald.*) In 1450, he built the Tower of Calder by a royal licence. His son (6) William, in 1471, bought from Andrew Lesly, master of the Hospital of Spey, with consent of the Bishop of Moray, the Mill of Nairn, with its pertinents (*Ibid.*); and in 1476, the Thaneage of Calder, Baronies of Clunie and Boath, Belmakeith, half of Raite, Moy, Dunmaglass, two Kinkells, Kindess, Invermarkie, Mulchoich, Drumurnie, Ferintosh, &c., were united in one Thaneage, and such lands as lie in Inverness or Forres shires, to answer to the Sheriff Court of Nairn (*Ibid.*) Hence Ferintosh, Moy, Dunmaglass, are a part of the shire of Nairn.

This Thane had five sons, viz., William, John, Andrew, Alexander, and Hutcheon, on whom he entailed his estate, allowing the immediate succession to John, to which William (who was lame and weak) consented, and had £20 annually and the vicarage of Ewan. All this was settled by charter anno 1488 (*Ibid.*). This Thane lived to about the year 1500; his son (7) John married

Isabel Rose, daughter of Kilravock, in 1492 (*Pen. Kilr.*), and dying in 1494, left one posthumous child, a daughter (8), Muriel or Marion. Kilravock intended this heiress for his own grandson, her first cousin; but Kilravock being pursued in a criminal process for robbery, in joining MacIntosh in spoiling the lands of Urquhart of Cromarty, Argyle, the Justice-General, made the process easy to him, got the Ward of Muriel's marriage of the King anno 1495, and she was sent to Inverary in the year 1499. (*Penn. Kilr.*).

In autumn, 1499, Campbell of Inverliver, with 60 men, came to receive the child, on pretence of sending her south to school. The lady Kilravock, her grandmother, that she might not be changed, seared and marked her hip with the key of her coffer. As Inverliver came with little Muriel to Daltulich, in Strath Nairn, he was close pursued by Alexander and Hugh Calder, her uncles, with a superior party. He sent off the child with an escort of six men, faced about to receive the Calders; and to deceive them, a sheaf of corn, dressed in some of the child's clothes, was kept by one in the rear. The conflict was sharp, and several were killed, among whom were six of Inverliver's sons. When Inverliver thought the child was out of reach, he retreated, leaving the fictitious child to the Calders; and Inverliver was rewarded with a grant



of the £20 land of Inverliver. It is said that, in the heat of the skirmish, Inverliver cried, "Sfada glaoth o' Lochow, 'Sfada cabhair o' chlan Dhuine," *i.e.*, "'Tis a far cry to Lochow, and a distant help to the Campbells"—now a proverb, signifying imminent danger and distant relief. All this I give on tradition.

Muriel was married in 1510 to Sir John Campbell, third son of Argyle, in memory of which, in the old Hall of the House of Calder, is cut S. I. C. and D. M. C., with this inscription, "Ceri mani memineris mane." (1) Sir John Campbell of Calder, in 1533, purchased from John Ogilvie of Carnousie, Meikle Geddes, Raite, and the Fort of it (*Pen. Cald.*), and in 1535 purchased from David, Earl of Crawford, the Barony of Strath Nairn, Fortalice of Castle Davie, and the patronage of Lundichty, now Dunlichty (*Ibid.*); and in 1545 he bought, from Patrick, Bishop of Moray, the lands of Fleenessmore (*Ibid.*). He died in 1546; and his son (2) Archibald married Isabel, the daughter of the Laird of Grant; and dying in 1553, his son (3) John purchased Ardersier and Delnies (*Vid. Nairn Parish*), and was murdered in 1592 by Lochinel's brother. His son (4) Sir John got from the Earl of Moray a renunciation, &c. (*Vid. Daviot Par.*). He purchased the Baronies of Durris and Borlum (*Vid. Dur. Par.*), and in 1609 took a charter of Little Budzet, Little Urchany, and Croy, from Alexander,

Bishop of Moray (*Ibid.*); but in 1614 he feued out Delmigvie and Holm. In 1617 he sold Croy to William Dallas of Cantray, and in the same year disposed Ferintosh to Lord Lovat, and mortgaged other lands; and all this in order to purchase, or rather to conquer the island of Ilay. His son, by Glenurchie's daughter (5), John Dow, had all his lands in the North, by a charter under the Great Seal, anno 1623, erected into a Barony called the Borough of Campbelltown, with power to create Bailies, Constables, Serjeants, and other officers; liberty to have a town-house and a market-cross, a weekly market on Wednesday, and a fair to begin on July 15th and to hold eight days; and that all infeftments may be taken at the Castle of Calder (*Ibid.*) Lord Torphichen had some Temple-lands in Ardersier, which he sold to Mr. Thomas Rollock, advocate, with the office of heritable bailie and a privilege of regality, which he disposed to Calder in 1626 (*Ibid.*). In 1626, Calder granted the feu of Dunmaglas to Ferquhard Mac-Gillivray; and in 1639 he disposed all his lands in favour of his eldest son (by Cromarty's daughter), viz., Colin. I find that this John was seized with melancholy in 1639, and was yet living in 1650. His son (6) Colin died at the University of Glasgow a bachelor, and was succeeded by (7) Sir Hugh, son of Colin of Boghol, who was brother to the last John.



This gentleman purchased Moyness and Urchany, as formerly observed. In 1678 he purchased Raite Castle and Raite Lone from John Ilay of Lochloy, and redeemed some mortgages; but mortgaged other lands, and feued out Kinchyle in 1685. In 1688 he disposed his whole estate in favour of his son, reserving the life-rent of his estate in the North; and died in 1716. His son, by Lady Henriet Stewart (8), Sir Alexander, married Elizabeth, sister to Sir Gilbert, Lord of Stackpole, in South Wales, and died in 1700. His eldest son (9), Gilbert, died in 1708, and was succeeded by his brother (10), John Campbell, now of Calder, born in 1695; he sold Ilay and Muckarn, to disburden his estate of debt. He married Mary Pryce, heiress of Gogirthen, in North Wales, by whom he has three sons and three daughters. The first daughter, Ann, married Lord Fortescue, Mary died unmarried, and Elizabeth married Captain Adams. Pryce, the eldest son, married in 1752 Sarah Bacon, daughter of Sir Edmund of Garboldisham, first Baronet of England, and dying in 1768, left four sons, viz., John, Alexander, George, and Charles; and three daughters, Mary, Sarah, and Henrietta. John, the second son, was in 1754 appointed Lord Lyon for Scotland. He married Eustachia, daughter of Baffet of Heaton. Alexander, the third son, is a Lieutenant-Colonel, and married Francess, daughter of Philip Meadows.

[Pryce Campbell having died during his father's lifetime, his son (11) John Campbell succeeded his grandfather, and was created a British peer by the title of Lord Cawdor. He married Lady Caroline, daughter of the Earl of Carlisle, by whom he had two sons—John Frederick and George Pryce, an Admiral in the Royal Navy, who married Miss Gascoygne, daughter of General Gascoygne, M.P. for Liverpool. John Campbell died in 1821, and was succeeded by his eldest son (12), John Frederick (Lord Cawdor), who, in 1816, married Lady Elizabeth, daughter of the Marquis of Bath, by whom there was issue.

The present representative is Sir William Henry Walsingham Calder, Bart., of Muirtown (cr. 1686), only surviving son of the late Sir Henry Roddam Calder, by Lady Frances Selina, daughter of Edward Henry, 1st Earl of Limerick; born 1820; succeeded as 6th Baronet, 1868; married 1842 Julia, daughter of Julius Hutchinson, Esq. She died 1876. Residence—Craven Lodge, Melton Mowbray.] (Ed.)

Arms of the Family of Calder. Four Coats Quarterly. 1st, Or. A Hart's Head cabossed Sable, attired Gules, for Calder. 2nd, Gyronne of eight, Or, and Sable, for Campbell. 3rd, Argent, a Galley with her Oars in action Sable, for Lorn. 4th, Parted, per Fess, Azure, and Gules, a Cross Or, for the name of Lort. Crest, a Swan proper crowned Or. Supporters, on the Dexter, a Lion rampant Guardant Gules, armed Or. And on the Sinister, a Heart proper. Motto above the Crest, CANDIDUS CANTABIT MORIENS, [The Swan will sing while dying.] And below the Shield, BE MINDFUL.

#### THE PARISH OF CROY

Is next above Calder, on both sides of the river. It stretcheth 12 miles in length on the west side of the river, and 4 miles on the east side, and is generally 2 miles in breadth.

The Church standeth on the west side, a mile from the river, 4 miles west from Nairn, 2 miles west-north-west from Calder, 3 south-east from



Petty, and 4 north from Deviot. The north part of this parish, to the west of the river, viz., Kildrummie, Flemington, and the Baronie of Kilravock, are a part of the estate of that family.

ROSE OF KILRAVOCK.

The surname of Rose cometh from the Hebrew, *Rosh*, a Head, and *Rhos* or *Ros*, signifying a promontory or headland jutting out into water. In many nations, places are called Rose, or compounded with it. And the country be-north Inverness is called Ross, because it stretcheth out into the sea. I question not but Ross, Earl of Ross, took his surname from the country. But Kilravock's family being descended of the Rosses in the south country (as their paternal arms show), and the name being anciently written *de Roos*, which we found much as Rose, they have changed Roos into Rose, to distinguish them from the Earl of Ross's family. And yet I have found this family in ancient writs called Roos, Ross, Rosse, Rose.

Had not the writings of this family been destroyed (as we shall see) in the burning of the Cathedral of Moray in 1390, few families could have better instructed their antiquity; and, even with that misfortune, few can exceed it. The Barony of Geddes, in the parish of Nairn, was their ancient inheritance. Hugo de Roos Dominus de Geddes is a witness in the foundation

charter of the Priory of Beaulie, anno 1230 (*M.S. Hist. Kilr.*). Sir John Bisset of Lovat had three daughters, co-heiresses, viz., Mary Domina de Lovat, married to Sir David Graham; Cecilia Domina de Beaufort, wife of Sir William of Fenton; and Elizabeth Domina de Kilravock, married to Sir Andrew de Bosco (Wood) of Red Castle; and Mary, daughter of Sir Andrew, was married to (1) Hugh Rose Baron of Geddes, and she and her husband obtained a charter of the barony of Kilravock from King John Baliol anno 1293 (*Pen. Kilr.*); and in 1295, the baronies of Kilravock and Geddes were estimated by an inquest, the first to £24, and the other to £12 yearly rent (*Chart Kilravock*). [Hugh Rose, first of Kilravock, died in or about 1306.] Their son (2) William married Morella, daughter of Alexander de Downe, and had Hugh and Andrew, of whom came Rose of Achloffin in Mar [This Sir William, second of Kilravock, died in 1333.] (3) Hugh II. died about 1363; his son (4) Hugh III. married Janet, only child of Sir Robert Chisholm, Constable of the Castle of Urquhart anno 1364, and with her he got the lands of *Cantra-na-bruich* in Strathnairn (*Ibid.*) He died about 1388. His son (5) Hugh IV. died in 1420, whose son (6) John obtained a charter of de Nova Damus under the Great Seal, 30th May, 1433, "pro eo, quod Chartæ suæ, tempore combustionis Ecclesiæ de Elgin, in Ecclesiæ prædicta fuerunt



vastatæ et destructæ."\* (*Ibid.*) He got from his grand-uncle, John Chisholm, the lands of Little Cantray and Ochterurchil, in 1480 (*Ibid.*) [John Rose of Kilravock died in or about 1454.] His son, by Isabel Cheyn, daughter of Essilmont, was (7) Hugh V. who, in 1482, purchased the lands of Coulmore in Ross (*Ibid.*) He married More or Marion, daughter of [Malcolm Begg] Macintosh [Captain of the Clanchattan]; his second son Alexander founded the family of Holm: Hugh died in 1494; and his eldest son (8) Hugh VI., by Margaret Gordon, daughter of Huntly, had Hugh; John, progenitor of the Rosses of Bellivat; and Alexander, of whom came the family of Insh in the Garioch, and died in 1517. (9) Hugh VII., by Agnes Urquhart, daughter of [Alexander Urquhart of] Cromarty, had Hugh and John of Wester Drakies [30th Dec. 1546?], and died anno 1543 [also 9 daughters]. (10) Hugh VIII. purchased from Bishop Hepburn, in 1545, the lands of Kildrummie, Coulmonie, and Daltulich. His facetious humour appeareth in a submission between him and two neighbours, his subscription to which is, "Hutcheon Rose of Kilravock, an honest man ill guided between you baith." He died in 1597 [June 10], leaving, by Catharine, daughter of

\* *Translation*—Because at the time of the burning of the Church of Elgin his title-deeds were scattered and destroyed in the foresaid Church.

Hawkerton, [eight daughters and] a son (11) William II., who, by Liliass Hay, daughter of Dalgatie, had Hugh, William of Clava, John of Braidley, and David of Earlsmln, and died [8th April] 1611. (12) Hugh IX. purchased Flemington from the Earl of Moray in 1639; he married Magdalene Frazer, daughter of Strichen, and died in [June] 1643. His son (13) Hugh X. married [Margaret] a daughter of [Sir John] Sinclair of Dunbeth [and Christian Mowat of the family of Bulquhollie], who brought him Hugh and John, of whom is Hiltoun, and he died in [March] 1649. [This Lady Kilravock brought a portion of £10,000 into the family. She died in November 1654.] (14) Hugh XI. [succeeded when 8 years old] purchased Kinudie, &c. (*Vide Aldearn Parish*), sold Coulmore, and purchased Couless and Rarichees in Ross anno 1681 (*Ibid.*) By Margaret, daughter of Innes of that ilk, he had Hugh his successor, and other sons. (15) Hugh XII. [born in the House of Innes in Jan. 1663, was 24 years old at his father's death] added to his estate the Barony of Muirton, near Kinloss, and the lands of Brae in Ross. He was five times married; 1st, with Margaret, daughter of Sir Hugh Campbell of Calder, by whom he had a son Hugh, and two daughters—Henrietta, married to Sir John MacKenzie of Coul, and Mary, to Duncan Forbes of Culloden, afterwards Lord President; 2nd, Joan, only child of



James Fraser of Brae, and had by her a son, James of Brae [She died in 1699]; 3rd, Jean [Magdalene?], daughter of [George] Cuthbert of Castlehill, who brought him Magdalene, married to MacKenzie of Dachmaluack, and Jean, to Robertson of Glasgoego; 4th, Elizabeth, daughter of Sir James Calder of Muirton, who had Margaret, married to Sir Charles Campbell, son of Sir Archibald [By this marriage about 1704, there was a numerous issue, who all died in infancy, except Margaret, married in 1730 to Charles Campbell of Clunes]; 5th, Katharine, daughter of James Porteous of Inverness, who left two sons, Arthur and Alexander. He died [23] January 1732. [He was buried in the Chapel of Geddes, æt. 62].

Hugh XIII. sold the lands of Brae, in Ross, and purchased Broadley, near Nairn. He married, 1st, Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Ludovick Grant of Grant, by whom he had two sons, Hugh, his heir, born in 1705, and Lewis of Coulmony. He married, 2nd, Jean, eldest daughter of Hugh Rose of Broadley, by whom he had two sons and six daughters. His sons were John and George, who both died officers in the army; and his daughters, Margaret, married to John Mackenzie, M.D., Edinburgh; Henrietta, married to Sir William Dunbar of Hempriggs, Baronet; Anne, married to Sir Henry Munro of Fowlis, Baronet—all of whom had issue; Alexandrina; Jean, married to Duncan Ross of Kindeace, in Ross-shire; and Caroline, married to Major Brodie. He died 28th May 1755, and was succeeded by his eldest son, Hugh XIV.\*

\* On the day previous to the memorable battle of Culloden, the Duke of Cumberland, having halted with his army at Nairn, lodged in the house of Hugh Rose of Kilravock, who was then Provost of that ancient burgh, and whose loyalty and

born in 1705, who was bred to the Law, and was Sheriff-Depute of Ross and Cromarty. In 1739 he married Elizabeth, daughter of Colonel William Clephane, nephew of Clephane of Carslogie, in Fifeshire, by whom he had three sons and a daughter—viz., Hugh, his heir, born 11th March 1740; William, who was Captain in the Sutherland Fencibles, and died, unmarried, in 1772; John, who was a wine merchant in London, and died, unmarried, in 1767; and Elizabeth, born 19th March 1747. He was a very literary character, and added greatly to the library of Kilravock—particularly

attachment to the cause of King George the Second is attested by the following inscription on a porter cup, preserved in the old Castle of Kilravock—"This cup belongs to the Provost of Nairn, 1746, the year of our deliverance. A bumper to the Duke of Cumberland."

About two o'clock of the same day, an officer from Prince Charles Stuart arrived at Kilravock, to announce that it was the intention of the Prince to dine that day at the Castle. Mr. Rose and his lady made the best preparation that the shortness of the time admitted for the reception of so illustrious and unexpected a guest; and in about an hour after the Prince reached the Castle, attended by a numerous retinue of gentlemen, many of whom were French. The manners and deportment of the Prince on this occasion were described by Mr. Rose and his lady as having been most engaging. He asked the number of Mr. Rose's children, and, on being told three sons, he requested to see them, praised their looks, and kissed each of them on the forehead. Having walked out with Mr. Rose previous to dinner, and observed several people engaged in planting those trees which now adorn the ancient family seat of the Roses, he remarked, "How happy must you be, Mr. Rose, in being thus peacefully engaged, when the whole country around you is in a stir."

Mr. Rose, who was a capital performer, having taken up the violin and played an Italian minuet, said to the Prince, "That, if I mistake not, is a favourite of your Royal Highness." "That it is a favourite of mine, Mr. Rose, is certain, but how you came to know that it is so, I am quite at a loss to guess." "That, sir," replied Mr. Rose, "may serve to show you that whatever people of your rank do or say is sure to be remarked." "I thank you," said the Prince, "for that observation."

Prince Charles, his secretary Mr. Kay, and Mr. and Mrs. Rose dined together, in what is now the parlour of the old



some of the best editions of the Classics, which he purchased in Holland. He died at 67, at Kilravock House, on the 26th November, and was interred in the family burial-place, 1772. He was succeeded by his eldest son (18) Hugh XV., who was also bred to the Law, and passed as Advocate, but never practised. He was a highly-accomplished gentleman and scholar, was extremely fond of field sports, and reckoned one of the best shots in Britain. He was also a first-rate performer on the violin; indeed, the whole Kilravock family were celebrated for their musical talents. In 1773 he married Anne Fraser\* of Inverness; but, she dying without

Castle, while forty of the Prince's attendants dined in a large hall adjoining. Between these two rooms there is a short passage, in which two of the Prince's officers stood with drawn swords while he was at dinner. When the cloth was removed Mr. Rose proposed to the Prince that he would allow those gentlemen to go to dine, adding "Your Royal Highness may be satisfied that you are perfectly safe in this house." To which he replied, "I know, Sir, that I am safe here; you can desire them to go to dinner."

A large and very handsome China bowl, capable of containing as much as sixteen ordinary bottles, is still preserved at the Castle of Kilravock. This bowl Mr. Kay greatly admired, and said that he would like to see it filled. In consequence, immediately after dinner, the bowl, filled with good whisky-punch, was placed on the Prince's table. After drinking a few glasses of wine Prince Charles rose to depart, as did also Mr. Kay; but the Prince, good-humouredly, said, "No, no, Kay, since you have challenged that bowl, you must stay to see it out." Kay, however, took only a glass, and accompanied his master to Culloden, where they slept.

Next day the Duke of Cumberland stopped on his march at the gate of Kilravock Castle, and Mr. Rose having gone out to receive him, the Duke said, "So I understand you had my cousin, Charles, here yesterday." "Yes, please your Royal Highness," replied Mr. Rose, "not having an armed force, I could not prevent his visit." "You did perfectly right," said the Duke, "and I entirely approve of your conduct." So saying, he rode on to the moor of Culloden.

\* She was a girl of low birth, albeit captivating in proportions. Such wedlock, of course, brought sorrow and dissension into the family. Pamella did not carry her honours meekly. The old proverb held true as to *the beggar and the horse*, or

issue in 1782, a long law-suit followed betwixt his sister Elizabeth, who claimed, as heir-of-line, and James Rose, son of Dr. Hugh Rose, by his first wife, Margaret Russel, who claimed, as heir-male to the late Kilravock. After a protracted litigation of five years' duration, Mrs. Rose, having appealed to the House of Lords, their Lordships, on the 2nd April 1787, gave judgment, deciding all the material points in favour of Mrs. Rose. By this decision she succeeded to the Barony of Kilravock, and the lands of Kildrummie and Easter Torrich, while James Rose was found entitled to the lands of Geddes and Flemingtown, and the patronage of Moy and vice-patronage of Croy.

[Mrs. Elizabeth Rose, born 1747, was a great letter-writer, and she copied drafts of her correspondence. She kept a common-place book for many years, and she followed what in her days was a general practice, especially with "Blue-stockings," of spending time in copying large extracts from books. She kept a Journal from 1771 till the year of her death, 1815. Volumes of MSS. were filled with plans, contemplations, thoughts, and botherations. The overflows of a naturally cheery lady develope in scribbling into a sentimental lachrymose. She sung the airs of her country, and she learnt from her father to take her part in catches and glees. She played the violin like male artistes, supported against her shoulder. The spinet and guitar were her companions in all her changes of abode and fortune. *The Papers of Kilravock*, published by "the Spalding Club," abound in various pleasantries about this accomplished heiress of Kilravock. The family adhered to the Nonjurors. In her "Book of Meditations," dated Easter week, 1774, she pens:—"I passed the eve of Good Friday in tumults of soul. Next morn-

rather *the grey mare became the best horse*. She was insinuating, however, and she and her husband became favourites in certain great houses—especially with Jane, Duchess of Gordon, "the Cock o' the North" in those days. The false step, notwithstanding, had its usual consequents. The parvenue Lady Kilravock has a monument in the Chapel of Geddes, which records that "she died 8th day of August 1837, in the 90th year of her age; and as a small mark of esteem, affection, and gratitude, this stone is erected by her attached friend Mary Scott." (Ed.)



ing I ventured to the chapel, and found myself soothed by the Divine worship. Next day was the preparation for the Communion in the Parish Church, and though of another persuasion, I thought my time would be well bestowed in hearing a discourse suitable to the work I had in hand." She corresponded with Burns; for what lady of such metal at the time did not?" (ED.)

In 1779 she married Dr. Hugh Rose of Broadley, who died in 1780, and by whom she had an only son, Hugh, born February 8, 1781. After the death of her husband she removed from Forres to Nairn, where she resided, in the Kilravock house, with her mother, for some years; but, on her accession to the estate, she and her mother took possession of Kilravock Castle, where she devoted much of her time to the improvement of the remains of the once extensive possessions of her ancestors—though harassed by two very tedious and expensive law-pleas. She planted nearly 1000 acres of moor ground with Scotch fir and larch, which, in the course of a few years, will add greatly to the value of the property. She enclosed with substantial fences, and drained several extensive farms; and by her influence over the tenantry, with whom she was, deservedly, very popular, she persuaded them to build comfortable houses, with suitable farmsteadings. She also drained, at a very considerable expense, great part of the Loch of Clans, formerly an extensive lake, in the hope of finding marl in it, and, though in this she was disappointed, it has added nearly 100 acres to the estate, which, by proper culture, will soon become of much value.

On the death of Mrs. Rose, in November 1815, she was succeeded by her eldest son, Hugh XVI., who served for some years as Lieutenant-Colonel of the Inverness-shire regiment of militia during the late war, and afterwards commanded the local militia of the county of Nairn, of which he is at present vice-lieutenant. He married, 1st, Catherine, daughter of Colonel John Baillie of Dunain, by whom he had three sons and four daughters—viz., Hugh, John, Ensign in the 50th regiment of Foot; George, Isabella, Elizabeth, Margaret, and Catherine Duff. He married, 2nd, Catherine, daughter of James Macintosh, Esq. of Farr, by whom he had three sons and three daughters—viz., James, William, Wellington (born

on the ever-memorable 18th of June), Anne Fraser, Harriet, and Caroline.

[Major James Rose of Kilravock, only surviving son of the late Hugh Rose, by his 2nd wife, Catherine, daughter of James Macintosh of Farr; born 1820; succeeded his brother, John Baillie, in 1854; married, first, in 1850, Anna Maria, daughter of Lieut.-General H. Ivenslow, of the Bengal Artillery. She died in 1867. Married, 2nd, in 1868, Eliza, widow of Farr W. Hockin of Sherborne, Dorset. Has by the first wife, with other issue, Hugh, born in 1863. Major Rose, who was educated at Edinburgh and Addiscombe College, is a J.P. and D.-L. for the county of Nairn, Lord of the Barony of Kilravock, and Major in the Indian Army, retired.

"A Genealogical Deduction of the Family of Rose of Kilravock from 1299 to 1847" was issued by the "Spalding Club" in 1848, under the supervision of Cosmo Innes. This History was written by Hew Rose, minister of Nairn, a cadet of the long race, in 1683-4, and continued by Lachlan Shaw, minister of Elgin—a Digest of which has been given above.

A range of castellated buildings and bastioned tower, with gaunt appendages of later but not quite modern days, stand on the edge of a richly wooded declivity of rock, looking down upon the river Nairn. The square keep was built by "Huchone de Ross;" *i.e.*, Hugh Rose, the 7th Baron, in 1460, having obtained licence to do so from John, Lord of the Isles; confirmed in 1475 by King James III. Tradition says that the Towers of Calder, Ironside, Dallas, and Spynie were built about the same time, and that the architect was Cochrane, the minion of James III., whom that monarch created Earl of Mar, who was afterwards hanged over Lauder Bridge in July 1482.

Besides the destruction of the Kilravock Papers, when the Cathedral of Elgin was burned in 1390, also in or about 1482, Duncan Macintosh surprised the Tower, committed slaughter and destroying papers. Hugh, 8th of the name and the 10th succeeding in the family, "built the lower part of the mannor place" in 1553. He was bound by contract to give John Anderson, mason, "meall at 2 sh. 8d. the boll." George Robertson, smith in Elgin, made the iron gate to the tower, which gate weighed 34



stone and 3 libs, for which he granted the "recept of threttie-four pounds 3 sh. 9d., with three bolls meall, ane stone of butter, and ane stone of cheese, by his recept, Februarij 5, 1568." This iron gate was taken off by the English in the wars of Cromwell. This Hugh, "the Black Baron," who died in 1597 æt. 90, entertained Queen Mary in his tower—her Majesty's bedroom, which is still in its original state, having no fire place in it, nor was it lathed nor plastered, while the floor consisted of great coarse boards, roughly sawn, and nailed together.

The name of *Kilravock* indicates the Cell or Chapel dedicated to some now-forgotten Saint; and tradition points, alas! to the present pigeon-house as the site of that Chapel. No ancient rights are ascertained by the verdict of an Inquest in the cause between "the Lord Prior of Urquhart and Hugh de Ros of Kilravoc," held in the Chapter of the Cathedral Church of Elgin in 1343. The Prior's duty was to defray the expense of the Vicar of Dalcross, who was to celebrate in Divine Service twice a week in the Chapel of Kilravock. Incidentally this chart introduces the Hermit of St. Mary's Chapel at Rate. It is a finely written indenture. Of the five seals that have been attached, only the labels remain.

In some of the old copies of the Kilravock History are given the inscriptions on the tomb of Mr. Rose, in the Chapel of Geddes, "taken off the loose stones after the chapel had fallen." Nothing now remains even of "the loose stones" which formed this monument, which seems to have been ornamented in the bad taste of that day—loaded with reflections on mortality, scriptural and classical, in verse and prose. The purpose of its erection is given in these words:—

POSITUM DAVIDIS ROSE DE EARLSMILL FILII GULIELMI ROSE ET LILLÆ HAY, DOMINI ET DOMINÆ DE KILRAVOCK, QUI OBIT 30 MAII 1669, ÆTATIS 76: NEC NON CONJUGIS IPSIUS CHRISTIANÆ CUTHBERT, FILIÆ JACOBI CUTHBERT DE DRAKIES, QUÆ OBIT 18 SEPTEMBRIS 1658. IN MEMORIAM PARENTUM SUI ET FRATRUM, JACOBI, GULIELMI, ALEXANDRIS, ET GULIELMI ROSE, ADORNANDUM CURAVIT M. HUGO ROSE DIVINI VERBI MINISTER APUD NAIRNE, 1667.

As in the vegetable world the old branches wither and drop off, while the stem and the younger branches flourish, so in families the stock and the younger cadets

remain after the old branches have become extinct. It cannot be doubted that, in the first age of this family of Kilravock, some considerable branches had sprung from it, which time has consumed, so that now these cannot be traced; yet some of near to 300 years' standing do still remain, for example the following in the order of seniority:—

- I. The Roses of Braidley or Dunern.
- II. Rose of Holm.
- III. Rose of Bellivat and Blackhills.
- IV. Rose of Insh.
- V. Rose of Wester Drakies.
- VI. Rose of Clava.
- VII. Rose of Braidley.
- VIII. Rose of Earlsmill.
- IX. Rose of Rosehill.

#### ROSE OF INSH.

This family was famous for their ecclesiastical preferments and dignities. (1) Alexander of Larachmore, brother-german to John the First of Bellivat, and third son of Hugh, the 8th laird of Kilravock, was father of (2) Henry of Larachmore, who was father of (3) James Rose of Insh, one of the ministers of Aberdeen, father of (4) John Rose of Insh, minister of that parish. He had two sons, viz., Alexander and Arthur. This last Arthur Rose was, in 1675, consecrated Bishop of Argyle, from which he was, in 1679, translated to the metropolitan See of Glasgow; and, in 1684, he was advanced to the Primacy, and made Archbishop of St Andrews. Being deprived at the Revolution, he lived a retired life, and died 13th June 1704. His elder brother, (5) Alexander Rose, was parson of Monymusk, and was father of two clergymen—viz., John and Alexander. This latter was for some years one of the ministers of Perth, from whence he was translated to Glasgow, and made Professor of Divinity in that University. In 1686 he was consecrated Bishop of Moray, from whence he was translated to Edinburgh in 1688. After his deprivation and the death of his uncle in 1704, Bishop Alexander Rose was *Primus* (or, in Roman Catholic terms, *Vicar-General*), to whom it belonged to call meetings of the clergy, and to preside in consecrating Bishops. The following sketch of him is



by a contemporary, from an MS. written about 1730, in the library at Slains:—"He was a man of breeding and parts, and so well accomplished and exercised in business, that though the Revolution happened the very first year of his government, yet he continued to command an universal respect, and to fill this chair with commendation to the last. After the Primate's death (1704) he maintained the character of Vicar-General, and took care to preserve the succession, and having outlived all the deprived bishops in this kingdom, came at last to have the sole government of the Church. He was tall and graceful to look at, and of a very healthful constitution, but was cut off by a sudden fit of an apoplexie at the age of 74, at Edinburgh, March 20, 1720, and was buried in the Lord Balmerinoch's burial place at Restalrig." His elder brother, (6) John Rose of Insh, was parson of Foveran]. (Ed.)

Kilravock's Paternal Arms are : Or. 3 Water Budgets, Sab.

Now to describe the Parish :

The House of Kilravock standeth on a rock, on the west bank of the river. It is a large pile of building, with a strong Tower, built in 1460 by a patent from the Earl of Ross. (*Ibid.*) The river, gardens, enclosures, and adjacent birchwood, make it a very agreeable seat. South-west on the river is Holm, the property of John Rose of Holm, the 9th descent in a direct line ; the small heritage is a part of the Barony of Strathnairn (*Vide Daviot. Par.*) Next up the river is Cantray, which, with Galcantray and Bellaffresh on the east side of the river, and the lands of Croy near the Church, are the property of Mr. Davidson, who lately purchased them from Dallas of Cantray. Croy was purchased from

Campbell of Calder in 1617; but Cantray (and Budzet in Calder) has been the seat of Dallas for many generations.

North-west from Cantray, on the top of the hill, standeth the Castle of Dalcross, built in 1621 by Lord Lovate, whose property the land was at that time. It came afterwards to Sir James Frazer of Brae, who gave it as a portion with his daughter Jean Frazer to Major Bateman. The major sold it to James Roy Dunbar Baillie of Inverness, and from him MacIntosh of MacIntosh purchased it in 1702. About 4 miles farther, on the west brae of the hill, is Easter Leys, pertaining to Robertson of Inches (*Vide Inverness Par.*) Next is Mid Leys, the property of George Baillie, son of John Baillie, late Writer to the Signet in Edinburgh, who was son of James Baillie, Sheriff Clerk of Inverness, of the family of Dunearn. Farther is West Leys, the heritage of Alexander Shaw of Tordarroch, who sold it lately to Sir Ludowick Grant of Grant (*Vide Daviot Par.*) These Leys hold of Lord Lovat, as a part of the ancient estate of that family.

To return to the side of the river Nairn. Above Cantray are Little Cantray, *Contra-na-bruich*, Orchil, &c., pertaining to Kilravock; and further up is the Barony of Clava, the heritage of Rose of Clava; of which branch Hugh of Clava is now the 6th in descent. This Barony is



situated on both sides of the river. And in the upper part of the parish is Daltulich, a mortgage possessed by a branch of the Frasers for 5 generations past.

CROY.

[*Situation, Soil, Climate.*—Croy lies on the southern side of Ardersier, and upon the west of Nairn. It is intersected through 8 miles of its length by the river of that name, on the western side of which it is extended in the direction north-west from Nairn for the space of 16 miles, consisting almost of one continued low ridge of white moorish ground, on which there are several small plots of poorly cultivated land. The soil along the river is a fertile loam, and in several parts fields of a good quality are found; but a great part is poor and thin, on a cold hard soil, and the crop subjected to damage when the harvest is late and wet.

*State of Property.*—The parish, in the counties of Nairn and Inverness, is shared among 10 proprietors. The family seat of Kilravock is an old tower, supposed to have been built in the year 1460, to which an elegant modern mansion, on a rock overhanging the river, is conjoined. The gardens, an orchard, and a considerable extent of natural and planted wood, embellish the environs. The domain is in the county of Nairn; the valued rent amounts to £792. A little farther up, pleasantly situated on the banks of the river, is Holme, the seat of John Rose, in the county of Inverness, a neat modern house, embellished by natural and planted wood; the valuation is £120. Still farther up the river, in the same county, is Cantray, the mansion-house of David Davidson [now Hugh G. Davidson]. He has at once ornamented and improved his ample property in a very high degree; more than 400 acres of waste have been brought into the highest state of cultivation. His plantations exceed 2000 acres; he has built a splendid and commodious mansion, and a handsome bridge in its environs, of the greatest utility and ornament. His domains are in both counties; the estate of Clava in Nairn, valued at £292 15s. 8d., added to those of Cantray and Clavala in

the county of Inverness, extends his valued rent in this parish to the sum of £839. Arthur Forbes of Culloden, Esq., has lands in both counties within this parish; his valuation in Nairn, of £358 14s. 6d., added to that of Lenoch and Bellbraid in the county of Inverness, makes his valuation equal to £449 4s. 6d. The rest of the parish is wholly in the county of Inverness.

The old castle and estate of Dalcross, the property of Mackintosh of Mackintosh, is valued at £190. Part of the barony of Inches, the property of Robertson, is valued at £230. Daltalich, a part of the estate of Lovat, is valued at £116 13s. 4d. Mid Leys, the property of Mr. Baillie, is valued at £133 6s. 8d. Leys, the property of Col. Fraser of Culduthel, is valued at £130; and the property appertaining to Cuthbert of Castlehill, valued at £56, makes the whole valuation of the parish amount to £2995 14s. 6d. Scots.

The greater part of the farms are below £20 sterling of rent. Several of them are inconsiderable crofts, lately brought into culture, and threatening to return to their original state of moor. There are a few rented from £40 to £50, managed in the best manner.

*State Ecclesiastical.*—The parish, in its present extent, consists of Croy and the parish of Dalcross, annexed before or about the Reformation. The vicar of Dalcross is mentioned in the records of Roman Catholic times; and the Burial-ground, still used a little, and the walls of its Church remain; and its glebe makes a part of the present glebe. The names of both parishes are supposed to be originally French, *Croix*, the cross, and *De la Croix*; but as a district in the western quarter of the kingdom is named *Glencro*, or *croy*, it may be of Gaelic birth. The stipend, including the allowance for the communion, is £30 11s. sterling, and 80 bolls of grain. The right of patronage is equally shared between the families of Cawdor and Kilravock. The district called Leys is so distant from the Church, that, during the summer and autumn months, public worship is performed there every fourth Sunday in the open air. The salary of the parochial school is 16 bolls of bear; the fees of education, and the perquisites of the office of session-clerk make the whole establishment equal to £22 sterling yearly. The Society for Christian Knowledge maintain also a school in the



parish, with an appointment of £12 sterling, besides the house, garden, fuel, and the maintenance of a cow, furnished by the proprietor and the people. Both schools are flourishing and well attended. Except 4 of the Episcopalian persuasion, the whole of the people, amounting to 1552, appertain to the national Church.

*Miscellaneous Information.*—It was in this parish, near the middle of the ridge of moorish ground on the side towards the river, that the decisive and important action of Culloden was achieved. After Prince Charles Edward had fully ascertained the sentiments both of England and Wales to be adverse to his desperate attempt, and found himself duped in the support which had been so liberally promised by France and Spain, the councils of his adherent chiefs, distracted by jealousy and dissension, were deeply marked by the infatuation of despair; for though presumption only could flatter them with the hope of success, and defeat must be attended by inevitable destruction, yet under the advantage of the terror and alarm which they had thrown over the capital, their successful retreat almost from the environs of London, so wonderful in every circumstance, the resources which they still possessed, and the additional support which they might acquire, had they then sued for peace and carried on at the same time the war, they would have obtained an amnesty for the whole of the common people, and easy terms for the less distinguished chiefs; and while they retained the command of several ports on both sides of the island, the Adventurer himself, and such as could not reasonably hope for pardon, might have easily retreated to an asylum on the Continent. This, however, they did not attempt. In the meantime royal forces thickened everywhere around them; every district almost of the Western Highlands (Inverness and Fort-Augustus excepted) was occupied by formidable detachments of adverse troops. The Duke of Cumberland arrived at Aberdeen about the end of February, and, having completed his magazines, commenced his march with the last division of his forces upon the 8th of April, and rendezvoused at Cullen with the whole army on the 11th. On the morning of the 12th, Major-General Huske, with the cavalry, a body of loyal Highlanders, 15 companies of grenadiers, and 2 field pieces, attended by the

Duke himself, preceded the army to the banks of the Spey. The Duke of Perth, the Lords John Drummond, Kilmarnock, and Balmerinoch, and Secretary Murray, had for some time taken up their quarters in the manse of Speymouth, on the other side of that river. The minister has left it on record, that though they used him civilly, and gave him no disturbance concerning his principles, yet it was expensive to him, and public worship was suspended during their sojourn there. 2000 men was the force under their command, able to have prevented the passage of the royal army, or to have defeated them when struggling with the power of the stream; but on their appearance on the southern bank, the rebels fled off towards Elgin, with the most unaccountable precipitation. The horse, sustained by the grenadiers and Highlanders, immediately passed over, but not with such expedition as to warrant a pursuit. The whole army thereafter forded the river to the depth of their middles, and one grenadier and 4 women, borne down by its rapidity, were drowned. They encamped in the vicinity of the manse, and his Royal Highness, with a more cordial welcome, occupied the state bed, from which the Duke of Perth was dispossessed. Their march on Sunday the 13th reached to the Church of Alves; the encampment was formed on an arable field, then green with the springing corn; the owner considered the crop to be destroyed, but it was found to have been thereby greatly improved. On the 14th they marched forward to the town of Nairn. The Duke entering into the 27th year of his age, they rested on the 15th, solemnizing the auspicious anniversary, and trimming their accoutrements and arms.

By this time the greater part of the rebel troops, from various quarters, under different chiefs, had rendezvoused with the Prince at Inverness. But instead of prudently retreating to the fastnesses of the mountains, which then afforded store of live cattle for provision, where their regiments would have been recruited, and their force augmented by a strong reinforcement of the Macphersons, then actually in full march to their aid, and where perhaps the disaster of Closterseven might have by anticipation been prevented, they weakly drew out to meet their fate upon Drum Mossie Moor, where they lay the whole night under arms, having very little provision—two



bannocks of bread only to each man. And in the anxious expectation of the advance of the royal army they waited in the order of battle the whole of the succeeding day, during which they were joined by 1400 men, under young Lovat, Keppoch, and Locheil. Having formed the weak purpose of surprising the Duke's army in the night of the birth-day solemnization, they marched eastward after sun-set in two columns; but then faint with hunger and fatigue, many were unable to come up; embarrassed by the length of the columns, they were obliged to make several halts, and many, overpowered with sleep, dropped off unperceived in the dark, and lay hid in the fields; and at the distance of 3 miles it was found impossible to reach the Duke's army before the rising of the sun, and only then with half the number that had marched off the moor. Charles therefore was reluctantly prevailed upon to measure back his way to the ground first chosen for the battle, in which he was rejoined by the greater part of those who had straggled in the nocturnal march. Immediately on regaining their station, great numbers dispersed in quest of provisions, and many, overpowered by fatigue, lay down to sleep on the heath. About 5 o'clock in the morning the army began their march from Nairn, nearly 15 miles distant from the place of engagement, and the repose of the wearied clans was disturbed by the alarm of their approach. They formed the order of battle with at least 1000 fewer than they had mustered on the preceding day; the front in 13 divisions, each clan under its respective chief, having 6 field pieces in the middle of the line; to support the front were disposed Fitz-James's horse on the right, covered by the wall of an enclosure; 4 companies of French piquets composed the middle column, and on the left were 5 companies of Lord John Drummond's foot, and a body of horse composed of the Prince's guards; open to the centre of the foot was the young Adventurer and his body guards, and in his rear was the line of reserve.

The Duke's army formed in 2 lines also, and 3 regiments for the corps of reserve; the dragoons, under Hawley, were on the left flank, and Kingston's horse guarded the right; the artillery, consisting of 10 field pieces, were placed two in the centre of each regiment, so that some pieces were capable of flanking the enemy on

whatever part of the line the impression might be made. The royal army consisted of 8811, and the other numbered 8350. About one o'clock afternoon the artillery of both parties opened; that of the rebels was ill served and inefficient, but the king's made dreadful havock among them, which Lord George Murray, the leader of the right wing, perceiving, called on them to advance, and 500 charged the left wing with their usual impetuosity. Barrel's regiment and Monro's were yielding to the pressure of this column when they were sustained by 2 battalions under Wolfe, advancing from the second line, by whose close fire great numbers fell, while the cannon continued to pour destruction with their cartridge shot. Meanwhile the dragoons, aided by the militia of Argyle, having opened passages in the dyke, broke in upon the right flank, while Kingston's horse, upon the left, met them in the centre, completing the confusion of the rebels; their rout in less than 30 minutes was final, and the field covered with the slain. The French piquets in their right covered their retreat for a little by a close and regular fire, then retiring to Inverness, they surrendered themselves prisoners of war. The road to that town was strewn with the bodies of the dead. Many friends even, who had come to share the victory, were sacrificed in the undistinguishing exultation of the victors over the unresisting foe. An entire body of the rebels, however, marched off the field of battle, their pipes playing, and the standard of Charles displayed. On the succeeding day 2000 met on the road to Badenoch, and, after a little deliberation, finally dispersed.

In every instance of civil war, rapine, desolation, and murder will be the cruel lot of numbers, though unresisting to either side. The moderation, however, of the rebels in the season of their success, considering their necessities, is deservedly worthy of the most distinguished praise; private property, save a trifling exaction at Manchester and Glasgow, remained inviolate in both their peregrinations from one end of the island almost to the other. Yet the objects of spoil were most tempting to undisciplined and needy adventurers, and their ideas of honesty and justice had impressed but faintly the virtue of forbearance and self-denial; and, save only in the rage of battle, they were extremely delicate and gentle, respecting the



effusion of blood. But with an extremely different measure was it meted to them in the day of their calamity. And notwithstanding the wickedness of their attempt to subvert our religion, liberty, and glorious constitution, it was not possible to regard the fallen sufferers without pity, without condemning the rigour of that vengeance to which the weak and submissive were doomed. The soldiers of the king, not contented with the blood which had been so profusely shed in the heat of action, traversed the field after the battle, and massacred those miserable wretches whom they found unresisting and maimed; some officers even, uninspired by sentiment, untinged by humanity, bore a part in this cruel scene of assassination. But that day did not sate the vengeance of the loyal powers. In the month of May they advanced into the Highlands and encamped at Fort Augustus, which had been lately by the rebels blown up; whence detachments were to every quarter sent off; the men, hunted down like wild beasts, were shot upon the mountains, or put to death in cold blood, without the form of trial; the women, having seen their fathers, brothers, and husbands murdered, subjected to violation, were turned out naked with their children, to starve upon the barren hills. One whole family, shut up in a barn, were consumed to ashes. Every house, hut, or habitation, was without distinction burned. So active and alert were those ministers of vengeance, that in a few days neither house nor cottage, man nor beast, was to be seen within the compass of 50 miles; all was ruin, silence, and desolation!

Yet jollity and glee alone resounded in the camp at Fort Augustus. Upwards of 2400 black cattle, with droves of sheep and goats, and troops of horses, were brought in—the plunder of the murdered peasants, and horse-racing among every rank and sex prevailed. His Royal Highness gave a holland smock for a prize, and the wives of the soldiers started on the bare backs of garrans, riding, with their legs on each side, like the men. On the same coursers Hawley and Colonel Howard run a match for 20 guineas, and the first of these heroes, by 4 inches, won.

While these circumstances are recorded in the page of history, let each succeeding generation beware of foster-

ing rebellion, or exciting insurrection, but only to obtain relief in situations that can be hardly rendered more calamitous.

The vanquished Adventurer, all his hope of a crown in one half hour dispelled, rode off the field with a few horsemen, accompanied by Lord Elcho and the Duke of Perth. Crossing the river Nairn, he retired to the house of a gentleman in Strath-herrick, and after a mournful conference with Lord Lovat, dismissing his followers, he wandered about a wretched solitary fugitive, surrounded by armed enemies, chased from hill to dale, from wood to heath, and from shore to shore, lurking seldom in a cottage, sometimes in a cave, and frequently on the bare waste, without attendants, and without other support than what the poorest peasant could supply. Sometimes, assuming women's attire, he appeared a lady's maid; and sometimes, in the habit of a travelling mountaineer, with a wallet on his back. He was rowed in fisher boats from isle to isle among the Hebrides, passing through the midst of his enemies unknown, exposed to hunger, thirst, and weariness, to cold and wet, in continued peril. He trusted his life to the fidelity of more than 50 individuals, mostly in the lowest paths of fortune, and knowing that to betray him raised them at once to affluence and wealth, by the price of £30,000 set upon his head; but they detested riches on such infamous terms, and they ministered to his necessities with the utmost fidelity and zeal, even at the hazard of their own destruction. Through the whole course of his distresses (which were such as hardly any other person ever outlived) he maintained the most amazing equanimity and good humour; never abandoned by his hope and recollection, he still found some expedient that saved him from captivity and death. At length, in the 5th month of his painful peril, he got on board a privateer of St. Malo; by means of a thick fog he passed through Lestock's squadron unseen, and arrived in safety at Roseau in Bretagne, his eye hollow, his visage wan, and his constitution greatly impaired by famine and fatigue. The history of his race, in every generation, loudly admonishes "*all kings to be wise, and all judges of the earth to be instructed;*" ever to govern with discretion, and with such care for the public weal as may preserve the love of their subjects,



and maintain their reign over people, happy because they feel themselves free.

There is little now to be seen on the field of battle, but it is still visited by many. The graves of those who fell are strikingly distinguishable by their verdant surface of grass rising through the brown surrounding heath. About 50 only of the army fell, of whom 6 were officers, one of them Lord Robert Ker; the number of the rebels who were killed in the action and in the pursuit has been computed at 2500. Bullets and fragments of armour, which are picked up by the people of the neighbourhood, are anxiously sought after, and preserved with care as curiosities, or as valuable relics. (*Survey of the Province of Moray.*)

Following the river, I come to

#### THE PARISH OF DAVIOT AND DUNLICHTIE

Stretching on both sides of the river Nairn, about 10 miles in length, and in few places 2 in breadth. It is enclosed with hills, except towards Croy. The Church standeth on the west bank, a mile above the north end of the parish, 3 miles north from Dunlichtie, which is united with it, 4 miles south from Croy, 4 miles S.E. from Inverness, and 3 miles north-west from Moy. The Barony of Strathnairn was the freehold of the Earl of Crawford before the year 1500. David, Earl of Crawford, married Catharine, daughter of King Robert II., and with her got the Barony of Strathnairn, &c., anno 1378 (*Rot. Rob. II.*); and he disposed it in feu to Ogilvie, laird of Findlater, who resided at Hall-hill in Pettie, and was designed laird of Strathnairn. Sir John Campbell of Calder pur-

chased Crawford's right in 1535, and thereafter Findlater conveyed his feu-hold to the Earl of Moray. This Earl, unwilling to hold of Calder, privately obtained a Charter from the Chancery, by which he was to hold of the Crown. Sir John Campbell, great-grand-son to the former mentioned, carried on a reduction of the Earl of Moray's right, and obtained from Earl James an ample renunciation, dated 17th November 1608, acknowledging, "that he held of Sir John Campbell of Calder the lands of Meikle Davie, cum Fortalicio, Budzeat, Little Davie, Coulclachie, Meikle and Little Craggies, Inverarnie, Gask, Wester Larg, Aberchaladers, Aberarders, Dalcrombie, Letterwhiln, Brinns, Fleehtie, Far, Holm, Failie, and Drumornie" (*Pen. Cald.*) Thus the Earl of Moray holdeth this barony of Mr. Campbell of Calder as his superior.

On the west side of the river, in the lower end of the parish, is Coulclachie, a sub-vassalage of Angus MacIntosh, who now representeth the MacIntoshes of Connidge. Next southward is Davie, the property of the laird of MacIntosh. Here was a Fort built by David, Earl of Crawford, and after him called *Davie Fort*. Next is Failie, the heritage of MacBean of Failie, a branch of the old Clan Chattan, who have long possessed this small estate. South thereof is Gask, which, with Dunmaglass, are the property of William MacGillivray of Dunmaglass. This



last was purchased by the Thane of Calder in 1414, and feued to Ferquhard MacAlaster in 1626; but they had immemorial *Duchus* or possession of it. Dunmaglass is Chief of the ancient clan of MacGillivray.

On the east side of the river, the first northward is Craggie, the property of the late William Shaw of Craigfield, cousin to Tordaroch, south of which is the Barony of Largs, a part of MacIntosh's estate. Further south is Inverarnie, a mortgage from Rose of Kilravock, who is the Earl of Moray's sub-vassal. MacPhail of Inverarnie is the Chief of that ancient tribe of the Clan Chattan. Above Inverarnie, on the brook of Fearnie, is Far, the property of MacIntosh of Far, a branch of the family of Kylachie. Above Inverarnie, on the side of Nairn, is Tordaroch, the seat of Alexander Shaw, an ancient branch of the Shaws of Rothemurchus. This family's heritage is Wester Leys, in the parish of Croy; but they hold Tordaroch in lease of MacIntosh, and have resided in it above 200 years. In the south end of Dunlichtie parish is Aberarder, the heritage of William MacIntosh of Aberarder, a branch of the family of MacIntosh; and west of Aberarder is Dunmaglass, of which I have spoken. There are in this Brae-country some other sub-vassals of the Earl of Moray.

## DAVIOT AND DUNLICHITY.

[*Situation, Soil, Climate.*—The river Nairn winds eastward from its sources, for the length of 23 miles, through this parish. The cultivated grounds extend from about 2 to nearly 4 miles in breadth. The name of *Daviot* is believed to have been given to the smaller district in honour of David, Earl of Crawford, once its proprietor, who built a fortress, lately razed for the lime-rubbish as manure. The other name in Gaelic is DUNLE-CHATTI, *the hill of the Clan Chattan*. This ancient tribe, under the various surnames of MacIntosh, the chief, Macgillivray, Macpherson, Macbean, Shaw, Smith, and Gow, continue in the possession of an extensive tract upon either side of this hill, which yet bears upon its summit the tokens of having been the rendezvous, and the place whence the signals were made, as the exigencies of remote times required. The Church of this district stands near its bottom; that of the other a few miles to the north-west of Moy. The appearance of the country is not inviting; where the hills are not covered with heath, "on which no tree is seen," they are naked rock, while large tracts of peat morass or barren moor deform the vales below. Among the mountains there are several lakes; that of Dundlechak is of the most consideration; it discharges one of the branches of the river, it is very deep; it is the lake which never freezes in winter by the most intense and longest frost, but in a calm night during the Spring it is readily frozen over in the space only of one night. The lake of Ruthven, though about half the extent of the other, being 3 miles in length, and nearly 1 in breadth, is vastly its superior in the estimation of the angler; there is no pike in it, but it is well stocked with trout of the Lochleven kind, similar to salmon when dressed; 4 or 5 dozen, from 3 to 8 lb., are at times caught in the space of two hours; and one or two boats are kept on the lake for the purpose only of fishing. Westward for some miles from the Church of Dunlidity the hills are chiefly composed of rock, and almost everywhere along their base innumerable fragments of enormous bulk, appearing to have been violently severed from their parent cliffs, exhibit the most satisfactory proof that earthquakes have been more frequent and more dreadful



in this quarter of the island than either tradition or history records. Near the Church of Daviot, and for some miles above it, on both sides of the river, there is a natural object of another kind more striking still; the ground is more than 300 feet of perpendicular height above the level of the Frith; it nevertheless presents a great many sand-hills, which evidently appear to have been formed by the current of contrary tides, under the flux and reflux of the ocean. At that period not only this island, but the greater part of Europe, must have been the bottom of the sea, probably during the antediluvian era, or in that more early period when "the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters, before he divided the waters which were under the firmament from those which were above it."

In some places the soil is sandy and light; in others it is spongy and wet, incumbent on clay; there are also tracts where it is black, of the quality of peat earth; and in many places all these kinds are compounded together. A considerable proportion of the soil is, however, fertile, and capable of producing pretty plentiful crops, but the climate is variable and unpropitious, and oftentimes the whole labour and hope of the year is blasted in one night or morning in the months of August or September by the mildew frost, to which the best and lowest fields are most exposed.

*State of Property.*—In its political circumstances the parish is placed in the counties of Nairn and Inverness. It is at present the inheritance of 8 proprietors. John Macgillivray of Dunmaglass, Esq., has the valuation of £400 Scots in the county of Nairn, and £486 in that of Inverness. David Davidson of Cantray, Esq., holds a valuation of £226 6s. 8d. Captain Macpherson of Invereshie has a valuation of £56 13s. 4d. Æneas Mackintosh of Mackintosh, Esq., has the property of Daviot at £448. William Mackintosh of Culclachy, £313 10s. Captain Mackintosh of Aberairder, £694 6s. 8d. James Mackintosh of Far, £200; and Arthur Forbes of Culloden, £108 6s. 8d., extending the whole valuation of the parish to the sum of £2933 6s. 8d. At the family seats of Dunmaglass and Far, the improvement of draining, enclosing, and planting, has been for some time carried on with propriety and success. The state of agriculture is in extreme

backwardness; the small black hairy oats and rye are the principal crops; common oats and barley succeed but in few places, and frequently misgive. The quantities of land are denominated *davochs*, *ploughs*, and *aughteen parts*: they were at first ascertained with regard to the quality rather than to the extent; and as, in several cases, the quality has been since improved, these denominations now appear arbitrary and uncertain. Few tenants occupy more than one aughteen part, the rent of which is from £3 to £5, besides a variety of services exacted by the landlords, both in seed time and harvest—so flagrantly detrimental to all improvement, that of late some of the proprietors begin to discover that the practice of the landlords in the highest cultivated districts of the kingdom is more wise than theirs; that they will become more respectable by having their revenue wholly in money, ascertained by the number of the acres on their estates; having their tenants in other respects entirely independent, and hiring farm servants sufficient for the cultivation of the lands in their own occupation. Of late the blackfaced sheep have been introduced into the higher parts of the district of Dunlithy, and they do not appear to suffer from the climate; the mean value is 9s. each, and the number about 2000. The common cross breeds are double that number, and their mean value about 5s. each. The number of black cattle have been diminished by increasing the number of the sheep; they still count to about 1300, and their mean value about £2 each. Horses are generally used in the cultivation of the land; they are of small size, their number about 800, and their mean value about £2 10s.

*State Ecclesiastical.*—The parishes of Daviot and Dunlithy were united about the year 1618. The residence is at Daviot, at the distance of 7 miles from the Church of Dunlithy, where public worship is performed every alternate Sunday. The stipend is £77 6s. sterling, with a small glebe, detached in parts as in the original parishes. The right of patronage appertains to Lord Cawdor. The appointment of the schoolmaster, including the emoluments of the office of Session-Clerk, is about £12. The number of the poor is nearly 46, and the funds for their provision, raised in the common form, and augmented by an endowment of £36, bearing interest,



exceeds not £5 yearly. The members of the National Church are 1265; and there are 430 of the Communion of the Episcopalian Church of Scotland, who have a chapel for themselves in the parish, but can only afford to have public worship there once in 3 or 4 Sundays; during the interval they assemble with their neighbours in the parish Church. There are two Seceders of less liberality of sentiment.

*Miscellaneous Information.*—The people are devout and regular in their profession of religion, disposed to rest somewhat on external forms, which, however, does not appear to have any bad effect on their morals, although in some of the less essential duties they are not wholly pure. They have, however, a sense of shame and honour in a high degree for their station. They are frugal, and they would be industrious if the climate and other particular circumstances offered the same excitements which happier situations possess. There are about 60 young men who migrate southwards for employment during the seasons of Spring, Summer, and Harvest; but by this means they have not generally increased their stock. They have introduced expensive dress and other luxuries among the labouring class; they have also raised the price of labour at home, and they live through the winter a burden on the common stock of their families. The gentlemen of the country want not encouragements in its own improvement, sufficient to retain them at home, and which would greatly redound to their mutual advantage; for this end they must no doubt place their tenants in the same situation, as to ease and independence, with those in the South, who can thus afford to abstract the labour of the North. By this means also the industry of a great part of the people who live within 4 or 6 miles of Inverness would be in a short time directed into a more profitable channel, both for landlord and tenant, than that in which it presently runs—namely, in preparing peat and turf fuel, and carrying it to the markets of the town, which is regularly continued twice in every week round the whole year, not excepting either Spring or Harvest. About Daviot there is lime-stone rock in the bed and banks of the river; it contains a great many small metallic cubes, not exceeding the fourth of an inch, consisting of a great proportion of lead, and of that

colour. There is a considerable number of weavers employed in making coarse woollen stuff. The other artizans only accommodate the country, for which there are also 1 fulling and 14 corn-mills.] (*Survey of the Province of Moray.*)

But I return to the coast.

#### THE PARISH OF ARDERSIER

Lieth on the west Coast from Nairn. It is a promontory running into the Moray Firth, from south-east to north-west, and is about 2 miles in length, and little more than a half mile in breadth at the south-east; and at the north-west it terminates in a narrow point, on which the Fort is built. The whole parish is the property of John Campbell of Calder, and was a part of the lands of the Bishop of Ross, with some Temple lands formerly belonging to the Knights Templar. More than a third part of the whole bounds was purchased about 1746 by the Government for a precinct of the fort. The Church formerly stood within the precinct, but of late there is a new Church built a little without it, about 5 miles west from Nairn, 3 miles north from Croy, and 4 miles north-east from Pettie. Whether the precinct shall be intra-parochial, or extra-parochial, is not as yet determined.

#### ARDERSIER.

[*Situation, Soil, Climate.*—This parish lies on the shore of the Firth, westward of that of Nairn, having a wing of the parish of Petty interjected between its southern side and the mountain. The name in the Gaelic, when a little



corrected, denotes *the height of the edge*. The greater part of the cultivated land, lying upon a plain extended backward from the sharp edge of a steep bank, rising 100 feet above the level beach of the sea. [Ardersier is written *Ardnaseer* in the Records of the parish.] The southern or land side of the parish is stretched a little more than 2 miles, and it might be conceived as a promontory terminating in the Firth, having the cape washed off almost to the level of the sea by some inundation in an æra beyond the notice of historical record, while the appearance of the ground, both in the smoothness of the compacted gravel of the plain below the bank, and in the steepness of the bank itself, suggests this idea. It might also with probability be conjectured, from the quality of the sand of which the bank appears to be composed, that the substance of this promontory, washed up again upon the shore of the parish of Dyke, formed the Mavis Hills and the magazine for the irruption over the estate of Culbin.

There is in the parish a considerable variety of soil—stiff clay, deep black mould, shallow black soil, and light sand. The parish lying either pretty high, or stretched out into the sea, the climate is rather cold, but neither wet nor unhealthy.

*State of Property.*—The whole parish is the property of Lord Cawdor, except the ground purchased by Government for the station of Fort George, and a farm for the accommodation of the Governor. His Lordship pays the whole of the land tax affecting the valued rent, which extends to £600 Scots. The real rent of the parish when Fort George was built was £315 sterling, and £50 more, which was the rent of the farm sold to Government. The parish contains 1,985 acres, of which 966 are moor. After supplying the inhabitants it, in general, disposes of 300 bolls. It is let in whole to one tenant, who sublets the greater part, in farms of 20 or 30 acres; the best arable land at £1 10s. the acre, and that of an inferior quality from 5s. to 7s. 6d.

The situation of Cromwell's Citadel upon the influx of the river at Inverness was originally chosen by Government for the station of Fort George; but the magistracy of that town, from an apprehension of its tendency to corrupt the morals of the people, eluded its erection there by such an exorbitant demand for the price of the ground

that the Duke of Cumberland, in a huff, upon the report of able engineers, found the ground whereon it now stands to be the most eligible, which, with the farm that has been mentioned, was purchased from the family of Cawdor. The work was commenced in the year 1747 under the direction of General Skinner. The original estimate was £120,000 sterling, but it required a little more than the addition of £40,000 to that sum. The Citadel occupies 15 English acres of the point of low ground already described. On three sides the ramparts rise almost out of the sea, which can be introduced at pleasure into a formidable excavation stretched along the fourth, with which the ancient fosse round any Gothic castle could not either in breadth or in depth be compared. It is said to be the only regular fortification in Britain—every member of the work is covered by the defence of some other, and the besiegers can take no station without being exposed to its fire. The depression of the outworks is so managed that the interior of the Citadel commands every part around it, and the plain is so broad on the land side as to afford no advantage from any higher ground, while its gravel is so compact and solid as to make the opening of trenches extremely difficult. It has 4 bastions, is mounted by 80 cannon, and well supplied with water. Besides the bomb-proof apartments under the ramparts, the interior of the Citadel consists of handsome squares of barracks, elegant accommodation for the Governor and other officers, a spacious armoury, a secure bomb-proof magazine, convenient stores, and a neat chapel. It is sufficient for the accommodation of 3,000 men.

It is hardly possible to contemplate the art and science displayed in rendering it defensible, without admiring the advancement in fortification since those rude ages in which the Capital of Asia was protected by a simple earthen rampart, flanked only with some towers of wood, and without even the security of a ditch. Homer represents Patroclus, upon having repulsed a sortie of Trojans, springing lightly on the top of the wall, an action which the judicious bard would never have admitted upon a perpendicular stone wall and a broad ditch.

The usefulness of Fort George is not now very obvious, great improvement has no doubt taken place in the manners and sentiments of the people of the country



around, since it was first garrisoned, to which it is not easy to say how much it may have contributed. Considering the state of the country at that time, its influence may have been considerable, but it would have been ineffectual still, without the free access to every quarter which the formation of roads has opened, the knowledge and new ideas which the establishment of schools has diffused; to which it may be added, that the protection of the persons and of the substance of the common people, by the equal extension of the laws to every rank, hath produced among them a satisfaction and elevation of mind unknown to their ancestors, the slaves of baronial despotism.

*State Ecclesiastical.*—The Church was removed from the vicinity of the ground sold to Government, to the plain above the bank, about the year 1769. Its walls, as well as those of the manse, are formed of clay, without any stone or lime. The Burial-ground remains at the old station of the Church, and is also used by the people of the Fortress. The right of patronage appertains to Lord Cawdor. There is no parochial school. The number of the poor amounts to 50; the money contributed in the Church for their support amounts to about £15 sterling in the year. The number of people, exclusive of the inhabitants of the Fort, is 802; there are only a few Seceders dissenting from the national Church.

*Miscellaneous Information.*—The Gaelic and English languages are spoken with equal readiness.

There is a considerable village, Campbeltown, containing about 300 inhabitants, which has been raised in consequence of the occasions of the garrison. It maintains 8 boats, from 5 to 8 tons burden, employed in the white and herring fishery; the herring are chiefly sold to fishing busses. Salmon are also caught in the Frith.

On the boundary of the parish of Nairn there is a rude Obelisk about 6 feet in height, reported to have been erected on the grave of a Chief, who lost his life in a silly scuffle about a cheese.] (*Survey of the Province of Moray.*)

Westward on the coast is

THE PARISH OF PETTIE

Is pleasantly situated in a plain betwixt the Firth and the hills towards Strathnairn. It is in length from east to west near 5 miles, and in breadth not above  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile.

The Church standeth on a rising ground, a furlong from the sea, almost 2 miles from the west end of the parish, 5 miles north-east from Inverness, 4 miles south-west from Ardersier, and near 3 miles north-west from Croy.

The barony of Pettie was anciently a part of the Earldom of Moray, but upon the death of Earl Archibald Douglas, anno 1455, the Castles of Inverness and Urquhart, and the lordships of them, the water mails of Inverness, the Lordship of Abernethie, the baronies of Urquhart, Glenurchan, Boneich, Bonochar, Pettie, Brachlie, and Strathern, with the pertinents, were annexed to the Crown (*Act Parl.* 1455). Some time after this the Laird of Findlater held the barony of Pettie of the Crown, and afterwards of the Earl of Moray. I find that Elizabeth, daughter of Sir James Dunbar of Cumnock, who died in 1505, was married to John Ogilvie of Strathnairn (*Pen. Westf.*). Ogilvie resided at Hallhill in Pettie. Lachlan, Laird of MacIntosh, being murdered by some of his Clan in 1524, James, Earl of Moray, committed the young Laird of



MacIntosh (who was his nephew) to the care of the Laird of Strathnairn. The MacIntoshes resented this as an indignity, demolished the house of Halhill, and killed 24 of the Ogilvies about the year 1531 (*M.S. Hist. MacIntosh and Kilravock*). It is probable that this barbarous treatment induced Findlater to dispoise his right of Strathnairn, Pettie, and Borlum, to the Earl of Moray.

#### THE HERSHIP OF PETTY.

[Near the west end of the Moss of Petty, and opposite the Dalcross Station, may be seen to the right the parish School-house, on a gentle rising ground, formerly said to have been an island, surrounded with its moat and lake. On it once stood the fortified House or Castle of Halhill, the scene of a marauding raid in 1513, called "The Her-ship of Petty," the *spulzie* taken or destroyed at which gives a good idea of the plenishing of a wealthy baron's residence in those days, and a favourable view of the agriculture of the district, if all the corns were of native growth. This her-ship was the work of the Mackintoshes, the Roses, Dallas of Cantray, Stewart of Clava, and Ross Kinstearny, aided by Donle More Macgilliecallum. The House of Pettie, called Halhill, was then occupied by John Ogilvie, son of the deceased Sir William Ogilvie of Strathearn, Knight, who is said to have obtained Petty from James IV., because his wife, called "Nanny Pant," an Englishwoman, was the first to communicate to the King the birth of his son, afterwards James V. The Mackintoshes were not likely to sympathise with this parental feeling, which deprived them of their ancient possession. They attacked the house and plundered the barony, root and branch. Thereafter the Lords of the Council decreed that all the rich "*spulzie*" should be given back and full restitution made. The plunderers, however, had at least three years' possession, and it is doubtful whether Halhill was ever again seen in its former glory. The Mackintoshes afterwards, in 1543, got

a new liferent back of Petty, and went on combating with their deadly enemies—the Earls of Moray and Huntly—and all others who dared to “TOUCH THE CAT BOT A GLOVE”—their emblazoned motto.] (See *Andersons' Guide to the Highlands*.—ED.)

In the east end of the parish is Calder's Brachlie, a skirt of the Thanedom of Calder. Near to it is Easter Brachlie, pertaining to Kilravock. All the rest of the parish is the property of the Earl of Moray, except a small feu in the west end called Alterlies, which pertaineth to Forbes of Culloden. Near the Church standeth Castle Stewart, one of the seats of the Earl of Moray, but now out of repair; and near thereto is a Corn-mill, set agoing by the Sea-water.

#### PETTY.

[*Situation, Soil, Climate*.—A circuit up into the mountain and back again to the shore, through 6 parishes, has made no advance in the course towards the west; for the parish of Petty lies next to Airdersier, in a progress up the Frith from the east; it extends 8 miles along the shore, and inland for about the half of that extent. The face of the country is nearly level, containing large tracts of cultivated field, where it rises gently into the mountain; they are separated by brooks, which in some places fall over the rocks in natural cascades; and, besides tufts of trees almost at every farmhouse, the Earl of Moray's plantations of fir, and oak, and other forest trees, in different places, have clothed more than 500 acres, which about 20 years ago were bleak and barren heath. The soil in part is a fertile black mould, but the greater proportion of it is sandy and light, yet capable of being cultivated to good account by grass seed and the other green crops. Although the ground is rather flat, there are no marshes nor stagnate water. The air is generally serene, and the climate dry, the crops being frequently damaged by drought in the summer months.



*State of Property.*—The parish, in the Sheriffdom of Inverness, except a small spot in the county of Nairn, is possessed by 4 proprietors, of whom the Earl of Moray has the valued rent of £2423 10s. Arthur Forbes of Culloden, Esq., £441 15s. James Rose of Brea, Esq., £157 3s. And Lord Cawdor £120, extending the valued rent of the parish to the sum of £3142 8s.

*Castle Stewart*, a large old building on the Earl of Moray's property, has been for many years uninhabitable. It is surrounded by an extensive grove, which shelters a spacious garden and orchard, distinguished by varieties of strawberry and a species of small cherry, the black and red green, transplanted from Kent about a century ago by Alexander Earl of Moray.

The number of farmers is not less than 90, of whom 3 or 4 pay from £60 to £100 of rent; the greater part only vary from £20 to £25. There are several below £10. And besides these, a number of still smaller tenants are planted as improvers of waste ground, with cottagers, who are labourers and mechanics, and as many fishers as man 3 boats. The greater part of the land is let from 12s. to 14s. the acre, some of the best as high as £1, and some as low as 5s., making the mean rent about 14s. the acre.

*State Ecclesiastical.*—The Church is inconveniently placed on a spot almost detached from the parish, near the manse, on an eminence rising from the head of a small bay which sets in from the Frith. The stipend is £30 sterling, and 78 bolls of barley and meal. The glebe is about 10 acres of poor light soil. The Earl of Moray holds the right of patronage. The school is in a pretty central situation, about half a mile from the Church. The salary is 12 bolls of oatmeal, collected in small but various proportions from among all the tenants. The scholars are numerous, but with the fees and official perquisites as Session-Clerk, the whole appointment exceeds not £20 sterling yearly. The poor are not numerous, owing to the great and increasing scarcity of fuel, but the country is much infested with beggar vagabonds from other parishes. The provision for the parochial poor is contributed in the assemblies of public worship; it amounts to about £6 yearly. The number of inhabitants is 1518, of which a few are Dissenter Antiburghers.

*Miscellaneous Information.*—The inhabitants are sober, industrious, and peaceable. They have frequent convivial meetings, where, after spending some hours cheerfully, they part in a friendly manner. Drinking to excess and quarrelling are accounted reproachful, and those addicted to these are avoided. They show attachments to old fashions; the plaid is the only part of the Highland dress which is generally laid aside, but the women have adopted more of the dress of their sex in the low country than the men. About 40 years ago there were oysters in this part of the Frith, but, one small spot excepted, they are now entirely gone. The water is shallow near the shore, and the sea retires to a great distance. There are places where a commodious harbour for the smaller vessels might be made at little expense. There are 4 corn-mills in the parish, one is turned by the flux and reflux of the tide. There are 2 earthen mounts near the Church, evidently artificial; they are composed of sand enclosed in a cover of sod, exactly circular, contracted gradually from the base, 150 feet in circumference, to the top only 120, perfectly level at the height of 42 feet. Their name, TOM MHOIT, *the Court Hill*, imports they were intended for the administration of justice.] (*Survey of the Province of Moray.*)

Next to Pettie, westward, is

#### THE TOWN AND PARISH OF INVERNESS.

The town standeth on the east bank of the River Ness, a little above the mouth of it. It consisteth of two streets, cutting one another, from south to north and from east to west. The buildings are good and convenient, all of stone. In one of the angles, at the intersection of the streets, standeth the Tolbooth and Court House, adorned with a lofty steeple and a clock; and in an opposite angle is the Town House, a large building of modern work. The Churches stand



on the river bank at the north end of the town, and near to them is Dunbar's Hospital, a large house with a garden, mortified by Provost Alex. Dunbar. Below the Churches is the harbour, which receiveth merchant ships, but standeth too open to the strong west wind, and close by the harbour are the vestiges of Cromwell's Fort. In the middle of the town is the Bridge, of seven arches and beautiful architecture, with a prison-room in one of the pillars. Formerly there stood here a bridge of wood, supported by pillars of oak, some of which are yet to be seen. It fell on the 28th September, 1664, and though more than a hundred persons who stood on it dropt all into the river no life was lost (*M.S. Hist. of Lovat*). The present Bridge was finished about the year 1686. Several gentlemen contributed liberally for it, and by an Act of Privy Council there was a collection for it through the Diocese. The Council's Act and Recommendation was for a general collection throughout the whole kingdom, and no doubt brought in a considerable sum. Sir Hugh Campbell of Calder gave £400 Scots, the Laird of MacLeod £800, the Ministers of the Diocese of Moray £500 (*Syn. Reg.*). Others likewise contributed liberally. On the west bank of the river there is a large suburbs of two streets, and a little above the town there is a pleasant little Island [in the river, where the magistrates entertain strangers with salmon

killed in their presence with spears. The town is very populous, and the houses being too much crowded, and the streets narrow, under the Castlehill and Barnhill the air is thick and moist.

The parish lieth on both sides of the river. On the west side it extendeth 8 miles and on the east 4 miles. The town standeth 5 miles south-west from Pettie, 5 miles almost east from Kirkhill, 5 miles north from Durris, and 4 miles west-by-north from Daviot. The town lands lie adjacent to it (*Vide Civ. Hist.*), and the country parish is full of gentlemen's seats.

[Inverness, like other of our Scotch towns, owes its origin, at a very early date, to its convenient situation as a sea-port, and to its river, being likewise admirably situated, as the centre of a large district, and opening easily to both the Lowlands and the Mountainous circle by which it is surrounded. Its earliest charters are from David, William the Lion, and Alexander. In the latter the King orders the town to be surrounded by a ditch and good paling (*fossa et bona palicio*); and, by the privileges which are granted to the Moravians (*Moravienes Mei*), it seems evident that the monarch meant to colonise Inverness with his low country subjects, probably for the purpose of civilizing the barbarians of the Highlands. This plan has, probably, been aided by the establishment of Religious Houses in the town. As early as the reign of Alexander II., 1215, a Royal grant is recorded in the Chartulary of Moray to that Bishoprick of the barony of Kinmylies, which remained with it till 1544, when Bishop Patrick Hepburn sold it to Lord Lovat. In the same reign there is an entry in the Chartulary of these words—"Thane et firmarii suppositure Kinmylies," which Lord Hales quotes, in order to prove that, anciently, the term Thane meant not always Comes or Count, but the head-director of a district or barony. About 1280, the Count of St. Pol, being wrecked in the Orkneys,



passed the winter in Inverness, and built a ship in Inverness in which he returned to France the succeeding summer.

Long before this period the *Castle of Inverness* (probably situated where the foundations of buildings have been lately dug up, upon the hill, near the Mill Burn, called the Auld Castle Hill) was celebrated as the place where, early in the 11th century, Macbeth murdered King Duncan. In these ruins several ancient coins were found, and a leaden amulet perforated with a leather cord, which is now at Muirtown. The amulet bears two keys crossed saltire ways, and the letter I between the handles of the keys. The Battle of Clachnahary [*the Watchman's Stone*], fought, by different accounts, in 1341 and 1378 (*Shaw* makes it in 1454, quoting the Macintosh and Lovat manuscripts), was a bloody contest between the Clan Chattan and Munroes, about a mile west of Inverness. Many human bones have been found among the rocks; and the proprietor of Muirtown, in 1822, has ornamented the spot by erecting a handsome Monument in memory of the event. In 1411, Donald of the Isles burnt the greatest part of Inverness and the beautiful Oak Bridge in his march to Harlow. James I., about 1440, in his progress, visited Inverness, and had many desperate robbers seized and executed. His exclamation upon the occasion is recorded:—"Ad turrim fortem caute duce cohortem Christi per Sortem Quia hi meruent mortem."\*

Towards the end of the 15th century, the town was visited by James III. during his troubles, and he granted a charter to the community; among other grants renewing that of the lands of Merkinch for the redendum of one pound of pepper annually. In 1555 Mary of Guise visited Inverness, and in 1562 her daughter, Queen Mary, paid a visit of some short continuance. The Governor of the Castle making some delay in receiving the Queen was hanged upon the bridge, which circumstance seems to have had little effect upon the Queen's gaiety, for Randolph writes, that he was present when the guards came into town with Jack and knapsack, and the Queen being informed that they had been watching all night in the

\* *Translation*.—By a cautious leader, a strong band, through the providence of Christ, brought quietly to the Tower, for they deserved death.

fields, she said merrily that she wished she had been with them. A few years after this, the Regent Moray came to Inverness, and the chief of the Clan Gunn was hanged for "taking the Crown of the causeway from the Earl of Moray." In 1625 the town of Inverness suffered much oppression by the heavy fines levied upon many of the merchants by the Earl of Moray, acting under a commission from the King. The cause was their having furnished some small articles, such as salt and soap, to the Clan Chattan, at that time in rebellion. Mr. Forbes of Culloden, by going to London, got the inhabitants some redress, as appears by the Papers published in the Culloden Collection.

*The Castle of Culloden*, long the chief building in the parish, was founded about 1624 by Macintosh, who, about 1625, sold the estate to Mr. Forbes. Early in the 17th century, the Earl of Huntly, Lord Lovat, and many of the northern chiefs residing in Inverness, that town became the centre of much conviviality and gaiety, which was succeeded by a long period of military troubles during the contests between the Royal and Covenant parties, in the reign of Charles I. During the early part of Cromwell's government, the person whom he sent to survey the sea-ports of Scotland (1651) reports Inverness as possessing but little shipping, and but one merchant of any consequence.

In 1652 Cromwell commenced the *Citadel of Inverness*, and it was finished in 5 years. This work is said to have cost £80,000 sterling. The oak came from England. The Religious Houses of Kinloss and Inverness were dilapidated for the mason work, and Struy is said to have received 30,000 merks for the fir timber. Upon the ramparts the standard of Cromwell was erected, having the word EMANUEL in large gold letters. This work was a small pentagon, with counterscarp, covered way and glacis, surrounded at full tide with water sufficient to float a small barge. The breastwork was three storeys high, all of hewn stone, and lined with brick inside. The sally-port lay towards the town. The principal gateway was to the north, where was a strong drawbridge of oak and a stately structure over it, with this motto, TOGAM TUENTUR ARMA—*Arms preserve the Gown*.

From this bridge the Citadel was approached by a



vault 70 feet long, with seats on each side. In the centre of the Fort stood a large square building, three storeys high, the lower storey contained the granary and magazine. In the highest was a church, well finished, within a pavilion roof, surmounted by a steeple with a clock and four bells. At the south-east stood a long building, four storeys high, called "the English Building," because built by English masons, and opposite to it a similar one erected by Scottish architects. The accommodations altogether would lodge 1,000 men. So abundant were the provisions and supplies of the garrison that a Scots pint of claret was sold for a shilling, and cloth was bought as cheap as in England. Upon the Restoration, Charles II. gratified the Highland Chiefs by having it dismantled, in which state it still shows its original dimensions.

In 1664 the *Timber Bridge* of Inverness suddenly fell, and was, in three years thereafter, replaced by the present stone bridge of seven arches, a work, certainly, of great magnificence for that period. A narrow and dismal vault between the first and second arches from the east end, lighted by a little grated window on the upper side of the bridge, was long used as a prison, and latterly as a place for confinement of lunatics. It was shut up in 1800 on account of a maniac having been almost devoured by rats.

In 1665 the townsmen suffered much oppression from the Macdonalds, which was repeated after the abdication of James II. in 1689. In 1690 the last wolf known to have been seen at large in this kingdom was killed above the House of Kinmylies, about a mile and a half from Inverness. Captain Frank, one of Cromwell's officers, probably in a lurking expedition, after the Restoration, came to Inverness; he describes the Citadel as a very superb work. The walls which fortified the town, he says, were then tumbling into ruin; and the soldiers of General Dean had, during Cromwell's time, drawn the first galley from the river at Inverness overland to the end of Loch Ness, an exertion worthy of the energy of the soldiers of Cromwell. From this period Inverness became the regular place of arms in the north.

At the commencement of the operations for the Royal succession in 1715, the town of Inverness was first seized for the Jacobite interest by the exertions of Alexander

Duff of Drummair, who introduced his son-in-law, the Laird of Macintosh, into the town at the head of his clan; and the Magistrates being much under Drummair's influence, he having been Member of Parliament and Provost for Inverness, seemed strongly on the side of the Stuart dynasty. The exertions of Culloden and Kilravock, aided by Lord Lovat, however, were effectual in recovering this important post for the King (George the First), though not without some contest and bloodshed. The Castle was soon afterwards much augmented and repaired, and received the name of Fort George, which it retained till blown up after the Battle of Culloden; soon after which event the present fort of that name was erected upon the promontory of Ardersier, the Magistrates having refused their consent to the erection near Inverness, an act of folly which indisputably deprived the town of the means of beauty and riches, which would have rendered it one of the most elegant and imposing capitals in the kingdom. Thus its two ancient Castles are no more, and its Citadel, erected by Cromwell, only faintly shows its original outlines, while their present succedaneum is too far removed to add to the appearance and importance of Inverness.

Captain Carleton describes it about 1690 and Captain Burt about 1730-8. The latter states that, at the Union, few houses in the town were slated. The Castle was repaired and augmented, being then, and long before this period, situated upon the small hill close to the river; and although his description of the natives is by no means calculated to please the pride of the Invernessians, still the evident truth of his narrative must disarm even prejudice of its anger.

During the Rebellion in 1745, the town of Inverness was the chief scene of the exertions of both parties, and for some time the residence of Prince Charles and the Duke of Cumberland, who both successively occupied the same bed in the house of Catherine Duff, Lady Drummair, in Church Street. It was almost the only house in the town in which there was a room without a bed. This old lady used to say "that she had lodged twa kings' bairns, but never wish'd to lodge any more." The exertions of that great man, President Forbes, and Lord Lovat, were long the themes of the narratives of the



persons who were witnesses of the different actions of these persons at Inverness.

From the Union till many years after the Battle of Culloden the town was evidently in a state of progressive decay, but for the last 40 or 50 years a new stimulus has been given. The parish and town have started into new life, and display on every side the effects of wealth, industry, and liberality of enterprise. The journey to Edinburgh, which used to consume a week, and to guard against the accidents of which people have made their Wills, is now performed in a day. Elegant architecture on every side adds to the natural beauties of the situation of the town, and the great Canal promises, by joining the Eastern and Western Oceans at Inverness, to make it in a short time the Queen of the North, and the emporium of many a distant shore.

Of antiquities, the town contains but few worthy of notice. The Grey Friars had a slated house here, sold, at the Reformation, to Inches; one pillar of the Grey Friars Church alone remains. About the vitrified Fort of Craig Phadrick much has been written. It is situated upon the estate of Muirtown, above a mile west of the town, and has evidently been a stronghold, containing an area of about 80 yards by 40, for the purpose of communicating signals by means of fires. It is at about equal distance from Knockfarril, Dunevan, and Dungardel, which are all in view from the top. The vitrified masses are evidently the deposits of the walls for retaining the burning wood, for as no vitrified masses are found in situations where such means of constructing walls might from their greater weakness be more naturally expected, it is not probable that such means of strength would be contemplated for the tops of hills. The Romans left the kingdom without arms or energy, and, during the long night of eight centuries after their retreat, the miserable natives had to suffer the constant descents of the northern tribes, and had their safety alone to look to, from being early apprized of the appearance of their fleets. Many bones and burnt wood have been, by the proprietor, dug up upon Craig Phadrick.

*Castle Spinitan* is a ruin, situated upon a small promontory, near the end of Loch Ness. This Castle has been supposed the remains of the Roman station Bonatium,

which the name of Bona (its present appellation) seems to countenance, as well as the form of the ditches and agger. It has, however, more modernly been one of those forts which formed a line of defence from the Eastern to the Western Seas; and with Lochindorb Castle, Inverness, Castle Spinitan, Castle Urquhart, and Inverlochty Castle, the communication was easy and straight. The Cummins and the English, after the invasion of Edward I., occupied the strongholds.

Of Druidical Circles, there are several in the parish. About 20 years ago a double-linked silver chain (each link as thick as a man's little finger) was dug up in the progress of making the Caledonian Canal, near the Bught. It contained about 15 double links, and this curiosity has at last been decided to form part of a dog couple—certainly the property of some personage Royal, or little below the rank of Royalty.

A gold trilateral rod, 15 inches long, and with hooks at each end, has been found lately upon the lands of Leys in ploughing some new lands. This has, probably, been the means of suspending a lamp, and if the value of gold and silver is considered in the olden times, these ancient remains of splendour must attest the rank of the persons residing in Inverness.

About 3 years ago several hundreds of silver coins were found in a jar near the site of the ancient Grey Friars' House—they were of the reigns of Henry III., Edward I., and some other kings nearly contemporary, and have probably been concealed at some period of sudden alarm, and through some casualty have been forgot.

A gold coin of Edward III. has been found near Dunain, and is now at Muirton. The arms of France and England are quartered upon one side; upon the other is a Cross, with four Leopards; in the angles, *Exaltat gloria crucem*.

At the Bught (Killivean) many bones and the stone-head of a battle-axe were dug up about 40 years ago.

Although Boethius speaks highly of the fruitful soil and wheat crops near Inverness, Mr. Burt gives the most miserable view of the state of agriculture in his time, and says a wheat field would be as great a rarity in the north as a Cat-a-Mountain (or Mountain Cat) in Middlesex. At present the crops are as plentiful, and the seasons as early, in Inverness parish as anywhere north of Tweed,



and as much so as a great part of England. Peaches, nectarines, apricots, and all wall-plants, ripen in the greatest perfection, so that many have remarked those fruits as superior to any not ripened by means of hot-houses which they had seen in more southern climates—a fact, probably, owing to the great length of the action of the sun during the long days of summer in the north. The Gardens of Culloden, Muirtown, Dochfourne, Drakies, Bught, and many others, are remarkable for fine and early fruit of the finest kinds. In short, from the great liberality of Government, and from the expenditure of individuals, this Northern Capital is on the eve of emerging with a consequence and grandeur hitherto beyond the reach of the most sanguine hopes.] (*See Grant's Edition of Shaw's History of Moray; and Editor.*)

On the east side of the river, 2 miles north-east of the town is Culloden, a good old house, gardens well laid out, with much planting, which make it an agreeable seat. This land belonged to a gentleman of the name of Strachan, who married the daughter of Hugh Rose of Kilravock that died anno 1543. Of that marriage there were only two daughters portioners, and the Laird of MacIntosh purchased from them and their husbands the rights of that barony. MacIntosh built a part of the House of Culloden, and his successor sold the barony about the year 1626 to (1) Duncan Forbes, son of Tolquhon and Provost of Inverness, whose son (2) John of Culloden, purchased Fairrentosh and Bunchrive anno 1673. His son (3) Duncan, was father of (4) John, who had no issue, and of Duncan, Lord President of the Session, who died the 10th December, 1747. His son (5) John has left (6)

Arthur, now of Culloden. Of this family is Forbes of Pitnacrief.

South-west is Easter Drakies, the property of Hugh Falconer, merchant in Inverness; and Wester Drakies, pertaining to the estate which belonged to Cuthbert of Castlehill, both holding of the town of Inverness. Next is the barony of Castlehill. In the reign of King David II., Susanna and Adda were sisters and heiresses of Castlehill, and a gentleman of the name of Cuthbert marrying Susanna, became thereby Baron of Castlehill (*MS. Hist. of Kilr.*). From that time the Cuthberts have been in possession of these lands.

Further is the barony of Inches, the first of which family was a son of Robertson of Strowan, who married the widow of Cuthbert of Castlehill about 1548, and his son became Laird of Inches, which was a part of the barony of Castlehill. Arthur Robertson of Inches now represents the family.

The lands of Essich are the farthest south, and are a part of MacIntosh's estate. Below Essich towards the river are Coulduthil, Knocknagial, and Torbreak, all Castle lands. Torbreak was the property of Captain William Baillie, and by a judicial sale in 1758, became the property of Doctor James Frazer, son of Phopachie. And on the side of the river is Holm, this is the fief of Alexander MacIntosh of Holm, a branch of



the family of Kylachie, who have possessed this small estate ever since the year 1614, and hold it mainly of Campbell of Calder.

I pass now to the west side of the River Ness. At the mouth of it is Markinch. This for 150 years was the property of Rose of Wester Drakies and his descendants, and has lately been purchased in a judicial sale by James Frazer of Phopachie. Next is the barony of Muirtown, a part of the estate of Lovat, sold about the year 1620 to Thomas Skivez for 2,000 merks Scots (*MS. Hist. of Lovat*). His descendants lately sold it to Sir Ludowick Grant of Grant, who disposed it to William Duff, third son of Alexander Duff of Drummuir. Farther south is Kylmiles, a part of the Bishop's lands of Orkney, purchased by Thomas, Lord Lovat, from Bishop William Tulloch about the year 1464. It was afterwards sold to Colonel Hugh Frazer of Kinerries, who disposed it to Mr. David Polson. From him it was purchased by Alexander Frazer (son of David Frazer Baillie of Inverness) of Fairfield, who lately sold it to George Ross of Pitkerries, merchant in London. Next up the river is the barony of Dunean. This family has enjoyed this barony about 300 years. The first of it was a son of Baillie of Hoprig and Lamington, who, for his brave behaviour as a volunteer in the Battle of Brechin, anno 1452, was soon after rewarded by the Earl of Huntly with this and other lands, a

part of the Castle lands of Inverness. South of Dunean is Dochgarach, the property for some generations of a branch of the MacLeans. Next to which is Dochfoure, pertaining to Baillie of Dochfoure, a branch of the family of Dunean. The very upper end of the parish is Aberiachan, in the face of the hill, at the side of Loch Ness. This is a part of the barony of Urquhart, pertaining to Sir James Grant of Grant, of whom Ewan Baillie, son of Dochfoure, holdeth it in mortgage.

Following the course of the river, I now come to

#### THE PARISH OF DURRIS,

From *Dur*, i.e. water, because the parish lieth on the side of the river and the Loch of Ness.

Before I proceed further, I shall shew the course of the River Ness; and if we trace it to its fountain, we shall find the springs of it in the hills of Knoidart, and its course thus: to Loch Queich, 4 miles; Loch Queich, 7; to Loch Garie, 9; Loch Garie, 5; to Loch Eoich, 2. All this course is from west to east, and Garie falleth into the middle of Loch Eoich, which is 4 miles long; so to the end of Loch Eoich, 2 miles; to Loch Ness, 4; length of Loch Ness, 22; to Inverness, 5: in all 60 miles. The course from Loch Eoich is from S.S.W. to N.N.E.; from the Moray Firth at Inverness, to Fort William, is one continued valley of 48 Scots miles, running from N.N.E. to S.S.W., without any bending, except that it



turneth one point towards the west, from Loch Lochie to Fort William. It is called *Glean-mor-na-halben*, i.e. the great valley of Scotland. Loch Ness lieth in this valley, and is in length about 23 English miles; at the north end it is 3 miles broad, and thence gradually tapereth, so that at the south end it is not 2 miles broad. It has no bending, no bay, except a small one at Urquhart. The high hills on both sides, are so variegated with hanging rocks, shady groves of wood, murmuring cascades, and streams of water, and some plots of corn land, that, to one who sails the loch in the summer season, they present a most charming landscape.

This parish extendeth about 6 miles from north to south, and as much from east to west. The Church standeth at the north-east corner of the loch, 5 miles south of Inverness, 7 miles north of Bolesken, and 6 miles south-west of Daviot. The lower and champaign part of the parish comprehendeth the baronies of Borlum and Durrus. Above Inverness, 3 miles on the river, is Borlum. This was a part of the estate of the Earl of Moray; and after the forfeiture of Earl Archibald Douglas, the Laird of Findlater obtained this barony and held it of the Crown, and his son was designed Ogilvie of Cardale. Findlater conveyed his right to Stewart Earl of Moray, and Earl James disposed "Borlum cum Fortalicio, with the fishing on the River Ness, the lands of

Coulard and Kinchyle, the Loch of Lochindorb, the houses within the same, cum adjacentibus shelingis, to Sir John Campbell of Calder, 31st October, 1606 (*Pen. Cald.*).” Borlum was thereafter given in feu to William MacIntosh of Borlum. The barony of Borlum, was feued by Shaw MacIntosh, late of Borlum, to his cousins William and Angus MacIntoshes, Bailies of Inverness, but redeemable by him in a certain term of years. At the expiring of that term, the barony was brought to a public sale, and was purchased by Simon Fraser, merchant in Gibraltar, son to John Fraser (*MacTavish*), late merchant in Inverness, who lately sold the lands to John Fraser, Writer to the Signet, his brother. Kinchyle lying south of Borlum, was, in 1685, feued to William MacBean, whose ancestors had the Duchus or possession thereof for many generations. Tradition beareth, that Bean-mor, son of Maolmuir MacGilonie, of the ancient Clan Chattan, came to this country with Lady MacIntosh, heiress of Clan Chattan, soon after the year 1291, and was the ancestor and chief of the MacBeans, now represented by the son of Giliose MacBean, who was killed in the Battle of Culoden anno 1746.

Next thereto, and on the loch, is the barony of Durris. This was a part of the estate of Sir Alexander Dunbar of Westfield, “who disposed Durris, half of Holm, Little Bellacheranich,



Tirchirochan, and Dalmigvie in Strathern, in favour of his son David Dunbar, 27th October, 1495; and, by a charter under the Great Seal, 17th December, 1569, these lands were erected into a free barony, of which Lopan (the seat of the family) was the principal messuage. Likewise, Alexander Earl of Dunfermline sold the Kirk lands of Durris (a part of the lands of the priory of Urquhart), to Mark Dunbar anno 1592, reserving the patronage and teinds; and Mark Dunbar disposed the whole barony to Sir John Campbell of Calder, 4th August, 1608, who, in 1610, purchased from Dunfermline the patronage of Dalcross, and the patronage and teinds of Durris." (*Pen. Cald.*).

Durris and Auldaurie were sold by Calder in feu to MacIntosh of Kylachie, who conveyed his right to Bailie John Barbour, of Inverness, whose son disposed in favour of William Fraser, writer in Edinburgh, and son of Balnaine.

South of the Church are the lands of Drummin, possessed long by the MacBeans, and now the property of Angus MacIntosh, merchant in Inverness, and grandson to Borlum.

Next thereto, is Erchit, the property of the said William Fraser, writer in Edinburgh. In the hilly part of the parish, are the lands of Bochrubin, Dundelchag, &c., pertaining to MacIntosh, and other lands, a part of the estate of Lovat.

## DURRIS.

[*Situation, Soil, Climate.*—This parish extends along the river and lake of Ness, from the borders of the parish of Inverness, about 20 miles, to that of Boleskin. Its Gaelic name, *dar-uish*, awkwardly expresses its situation, signifying *water of water—the river of or from the lake*. Its eastern side borders with Daviot and Dunlighty, and its breadth is nearly 4 miles. It may in general be regarded as a valley, between mountains upon the south and north. By this situation, the winds are for the greater part from the west or the east; and in dry summers, did not heavy dews commonly fall during the night of a warm day, the corn and grass would be quite parched. The soil is generally light: in some parts of the higher grounds it is the best; and in seasons free of frost or very frequent rains, it is very productive. The air is esteemed salubrious. The lake of Dandlechak, as well as that of Lochness, is partly within the bounds of this parish.

*State of Property.*—The parish is shared among 8 proprietors. Mr. Fraser Tytler, advocate, has Balnain, at the valuation of £880 6s. 8d. Alexander Fraser, of Dell, Esq., has the valuation of £90 10s. 10d. James Fraser, of Gortuleg, Esq., Writer to the Signet, that of £59 18s. 1d. Simon Fraser, of Farralin, Esq., £59 16s. Simon Fraser, Esq., of Coleman Street, London, £533 6s. 8d. The valuation of the Lovat estate in this parish is £392 9s. 5d. Aeneas Mackintosh of Mackintosh, Esq., holds the valuation of £90, and David Davidson, of Cantray, Esq., that of £73 15s., extending the total valuation of the parish to £2180 2s. 8d.

*State Ecclesiastical.*—The Church and Manse are situated towards the middle of the parish, upon the end of the lake of Ness, near where it begins to discharge the river. The stipend is £40 sterling, 24 bolls of barley, and 24 bolls of oatmeal. The right of patronage appertains to Lord Cawdor. The school is not flourishing: the salary is £5 11s., and the number of scholars about 20. The poor amount to the number of 60: about £4 yearly is contributed by the people in their assemblies for public worship; to which there is the farther provision of the interest of £70, bequeathed by gentlemen once landholders



of the parish. The number of the people amounts to 1365, of whom a very small proportion are distinguished as Dissenters.

*Miscellaneous Information.*—The memorial of the thralldom and incursions of the Danes is still preserved in this country, as well as on the coast of Moray. About 3 miles inward from Loch Ness, the vestiges of a Fortress, known by the appellation of *Chastal dun ri-chuan* (the strong Castle of the King of the Ocean), reminds us, that Britannia did not always rule the waves, but that the kings of Norway and Denmark once assumed the title of the Masters of the Sea; and suggests the humbling speculation of the rank we should now hold among nations, were times such as these to return. Yet these were the times when the heroes of Morven moved in their strength; when the King of Selma shone in the brightest robe of renown. Their tombs still rise on the heath: their fame still rests on the stones. Here fought the father of Ossian; and here fell the son of the Norwegian king. Many piles of stone mark the dark dwellings of the slain: one, larger than the rest together, rises over their youthful chief: his name, Ashee, transferred to the adjoining hill, is still recognised in Drumash; and *Sheire fiann* (the chair of Fingal) is shown as the seat of that hero, when the roar of battle ceased along the heath, when he retired from the strife of the field.

About 9 miles from Dun-Ri-Chuan, another Fortress, Dundaradel, is recognized as one of that chain of strong holds, which the state of society then required, for transmitting telegraphing signals from the one shore to the other along the great vale, from the German Ocean at Inverness to the Atlantic at Fort William.

The people now, with very few exceptions, live in peaceful industry. The deer and roe still bound over the desert, and herd in the extensive plantations of fir, in which the lower part of the parish is clothed. But oats, barley, and potatoe, are the principal productions of the soil: upon the last of these, the poorer class in a great measure depend for their frugal subsistence.] (*Survey of the Province of Moray.*)

## BOLESKIN PARISH.

The parish of Boleskin and Abertarf, which lieth on the east side, and the south end of the loch. Boleskin parish (*Baloscian*, i. e., the town over the Loch, for the Church standeth on the face of the hill, over the Loch Ness) is properly Stratherik, or *Strathfarigack*, scattered in the valleys betwixt Loch Ness and the hills towards Badenoch. The Church standeth near the Loch, 7 miles south of Durris, and 12 north of Kilhuiman.

Here entering the country of the Frasers, I shall speak of

## THE FAMILY OF LOVAT.

I shall not attempt to assign the origin, or to determine the antiquity of the name of Fraser. Some would fetch the Frasers from Frieseland, and it favours this conjecture that, in ancient writings, they are called Frisele, in Irish *Friselech*, and not Fraser. Others bring them from France as early as the reign of Charlemagne, and derive the name from the French, *Frasier*, a strawberry plant. But passing these conjectures, I may say with Buchanan, that in Scotland they were right early, "Gens numerossima, et de re Scotica bene merita."

The late Lord Lovat caused publish in Nisbet's *Heraldry*, Vol. II., an account of his family,



“disclaiming his ancestor’s marriage with a daughter of Bisset of Lovat, and affirming that Sir Simon Fraser (who was executed in London after the battle of Methven, anno 1307) had a son, Simon, that was killed at Haledon-hill, anno 1333, leaving a son Hugh, who got the Barony of Lovat from King David II., and the 3 Crowns, as Arms of Concession.” But this wholly unvouched account will not bear a trial. It is uncertain if the great Sir Simon had a son; and if he had, he certainly left no issue, for the families of Tweeddale and Wigtoun quarter the Frasers’ arms, because their ladies (daughters of Sir Simon) were co-heiresses, which they could not be if their brother had issue and succession. Besides, it cannot be instructed that the Barony of Lovat was in the King’s gift; nay, the contrary is apparent from *Char. Morav. and the MS. Hist. of the Family of Kilravock*. Nor were the 3 Crowns Arms of Concession. Lovat’s striking them out shows that he considered them as the Arms of Bisset, with whom he disclaimed a connection, for had they been a royal Concession, they ought to possess the first place in the Field, as the most honourable. Lovat’s apparent design was to establish a right of Chieftainry in his family, which no history or genealogy I have seen will admit.

I incline to think that Sir Simon of Tweeddale or Oliver-castle, called Simon Pater by Mr.

Rymer, William Bishop of St Andrews, and Gilbert Sheriff of Traquair (*Reg. Kelso*) were brothers. Simon Pater, son of Bernard, is allowed to have been Chief of the name, and had two sons, viz. Sir Simon and Sir Alexander (*Life of King Robert Bruce*). Sir Simon was put to death, and his daughters were married as above mentioned. Sir Alexander then became Chief, was made Lord Chamberlain anno 1325, married Mary Bruce, sister of King Robert, and widow of Sir Neil Campbell, and that King gave him the Thanedom of Cowie and other lands (*Rotul. Rob.*) Sir Alexander's son was Sir William of Cowie and Does, whose son, Sir Alexander, married Janet, daughter of William, Earl of Ross, by whom he got the lands, and took the title of Philorth in Buchan. He died about 1412, leaving two sons, Sir William and Alexander of Does; Sir William of Philorth died anno 1441, whose son Sir Alexander was, 14th April, 1461, served heir to Sir Alexander of Cowie, the Laird of Lovat being one of the inquest. His lineal descendant, Alexander of Philorth, in 1598, married Margaret, daughter of George Lord Abernethie of Saltoun, and their grandson, Alexander, upon the death of Alexander Lord Saltoun in 1669 without issue, served heir to Lord George, and in Parliament 1670 had the honour and rank of Saltoun confirmed to him; and, in my opinion, Lord Saltoun is undoubted Chief of the Clan.



Gilbert Sheriff of Traquair probably was ancestor of the family of Lovat. His son, Sir Andrew, was father of Simon Fraser, who married the daughter (or grand daughter) of Sir John Bisset of Lovat. The three daughters, co-heiresses of this gentleman, were, according to their birth, Mary Lady Lovat, Cecilia Lady Beaufort, and Elizabeth Lady Kilravock. Mary the eldest was married to Sir David Graham, second son of Sir David of Kincardine; and Sir David Graham was alive anno 1294, and had a son, Patrick Graham. If, therefore, Mary Bisset was married to Simon Fraser, it must have been some time after the 1294, and she must have been of an advanced age, for Mary Wood, daughter of the youngest sister Elizabeth, was married to Hugh Rose of Geddes before that year 1294. Either, then, Simon's wife was Mary Bisset, widow of Sir David Graham, and well stricken in years, or the daughter of Sir David became heiress of Lovat upon the death of her brother Patrick, without issue. Leaving this uncertain, the first of this name I find designed "Of Lovat," is Hugh Frisele, who does homage to the Bishop of Moray, anno 1367, for some lands in the Aird. I shall now deduce the succession, according to the *MS.* account of the family.

In the law-suit in 1730, by the late Lovat, for obtaining the Peerage, it was acknowledged that it does not certainly appear, by any writing or

record, in what year the dignity of a Lord was conferred on that family; and that Lord Lovat is marked in the Rolls of Parliament in 1540, and not more early. But in the additional case of Elizabeth Countess of Sutherland in 1771, I find that the Retour 1430 calls him Hugh Fraser de Lovat; and in a Royal Charter in 1480, he is designed "Hugo Fraser Dominus de Lovat," and thus the family was ennobled betwixt the years 1430 and 1480, and the third or fourth descent seems to have been the first Lord.

(1) Simon Frisele was father of (2) Hugh, who married Margaret, daughter and heiress of William Fenton of Beaufort, son of Thomas of Donnie, and by her got the lands. He died about 1420, leaving three sons — viz., Hugh, Alexander, of whom is Feralin, and James ancestor of Craigray and Glenernie. (3) Hugh II. married Janet, daughter of Thomas Dunbar Earl of Moray, and with her got the lands of Aber-tarf. His son (4) Hugh III. married a daughter of Lord Glammis, and was killed at Floudon anno 1513, leaving a son Thomas, and a bastard son, who, having been some time in France, was called Hutcheon Franchoch, of whom is Fraser of Fohir. (5) Thomas seems to have been the second who was advanced to the Peerage; he married Janet Gordon, daughter of Sir Alexander of Midmar, brother to Huntley, and in his favour Huntley renounced all right he had to Strath-



erick; he died anno 1526, leaving a son Hugh, and a bastard son Hutcheon Bane, ancestor to Relick. (6) Hugh IV. married a daughter of John Grant of Freuchie, and by her had Hugh; and by his second Lady, a daughter of Belnagawn, he had Alexander and William of Strawie. Lord Hugh and his eldest son were killed in the battle of *Cean-Lochlochie*, anno 1544. (7) Alexander married Jean, daughter of Sir John Campbell of Calder, and had Hugh, Thomas of Strichen, and James of Ardachie. Lord Alexander purchased Strowie, Coulgaran, Kilwadie, Crochils, and Comer, from William Forbes of Kinaldie; and his son Thomas married Isabel Forbes, widow of Chalmers of Strichen, and purchased the lands of Strichen in Buchan about 1580. Lord Alexander died 1588. (8) Hugh V. married Elizabeth Stewart, daughter of John Earl of Athole, and purchased from Sir Walter Reid, Prior of Beaulie, the lands and tythes thereof, about 1569, and died 1576. His son (9) Simon II. by his first wife, daughter of Kintail, had Hugh; and by his second wife, daughter of the Earl of Moray, had Simon of Inveralachie, and Sir James of Brae. He sold Glenelg to MacLeod, and mortgaged Kilmlies, Fanellan, and Kingylie, to Strichen, and Phopachie to Coulkokie. In 1617 he purchased Ferintosh and Inveralachie, and disposed these and Bunchrieve to his second son. He died 1633. (10) Hugh

VI. by his Lady, a daughter of Weemys, had Hugh, and Thomas of Beaufort. He sold Aber-tarf to Glengary for 5000 merks, and Muirtoun to Thomas Shevez for 2000 merks; he died in 1646. (11) Hugh VII., by a daughter of the Earl of Leven, had (12) Hugh VIII., who sold Kilmiles to Fraser of Kinaries, Kingyle to Coul-bokie, Belladrum to Hugh Fraser, and Buntaite to Chisholm of Comer; and Sir James of Brae gave Dalcross as a portion with his daughter to Major Bateman. Lord Hugh died about anno 1672, leaving, by the daughter of MacKenzie of Tarbet, a son (13) Hugh IX. who married Emilia, daughter of John Marquis of Athole, who brought him three daughters—viz. Emilia, married to MacKenzie of Prestonhall; Anne to the Laird of MacLeod, and again to Pourie; and Catharine to William Moray, son of Achtertyre. By his marriage articles, this Lord provided his estate to heirs whatsoever. He died in 1696. (14) Simon III., son of Thomas of Beaufort, by Sybilla, daughter of MacLeod, being out-lawed, lived in exile till the year 1714. He then obtained a remission, next year got the life-rent Escheat of Prestonhall, and an annual pension of £300. In 1730 the honours were adjudged to him by the Court of Session; he was made Captain of an independent Highland regiment; paid a sum of money to Prestonhall's son for his right to the estate; but his behaviour, in 1745 and



1746, brought him to the block, 9th April, 1747, and his estate was forfeited, and honours extinguished. By his first wife, daughter of Ludowick Grant of Grant, he left issue, Simon now a Colonel, Alexander, Janet, married to MacPherson of Clunie, and Sybilla; by his second wife, daughter of Campbell of Mamore, he left a son Archibald. Simon, the eldest son, having been, against his inclination, driven by his father into the late Rebellion, soon obtained a remission; and having served in the military in America and Portugal, he was advanced to the degree of a Major-General; and by an Act of Parliament in 1774, the King granted to him the lands and estate of his father, upon certain terms and conditions.

The above mentioned *MS.* gives an account of a branch of the Frasers, called the Family of Fruid in Tweeddale, of which John Fraser, Bishop of Ross in 1485, was a son. In 1492 Anne Wallace, widow of Fruid, with her 7 sons, came into the north. Paul and Almond, the 2 eldest, were clergymen; of John, the third son, is descended Fraser of Dunbalach; Alexander, the 4th son, was ancestor of Phopachie; James, the 5th son, was ancestor of Mr. Robert Fraser, advocate, and Mr Michael Fraser, minister of Daviot; of Duncan, the 6th son, is descended Fraser of Daltulich, in the parish of Croy; and of Robert, the 7th son, came the Frasers called *Mac-Robie Friselich*.

The Proper Arms of Fraser are: Az. three Fraises Arg. Motto, JE SUIS PREST [I am ready]. The Family quartered the Bissets Arms—viz., Gul. three Antique Crowns, Or. But the late Lovat struck out these, and having come peaceably to the possession of the estate, added another Motto—viz., SINE SANGUINE VICTOR [A bloodless victory].

I now return to the parish of Boleskin. Stratherick was the ancient seat of the Grants before they came into Strathspey; they left some vestiges behind them to confirm this, for we find the same names of country seats in Stratherick, as Gartmore, Gartbeg, Dellachaple, &c., which they gave to the places where they settled in Strathspey. The above mentioned *MS.* of the Family of Lovat affirms that, in the 15th century, there were many Grants and Kerans, or *Clanchiaran*, living in Stratherick; and that Thomas, Lord Lovat, having married the daughter of Alexander Gordon of Midmar, brother to the Earl of Huntley, that Earl, in 1493, renounced in Lovat's favour all his right to the lands of Stratherick. What right Huntley had, or claimed, I know not; but it is certain that the Frasers have possessed that country for many generations.

The Water of Faragack, which giveth name to the country, runneth through the north of the parish, from east to west, and falleth into the Loch two miles north of the Church; and the Water of Feachlin runneth through the middle of the parish, emptying into the Loch at Fohir,



a little south of the Church. Upon these waters, and the branches of them, stand the seats of many gentlemen of the name of Fraser, such as Fohir, Gortuleg, and Balnaine, feuars; Taralin, Gartmore, Gartbeg, Drumyample, Kinbrylie, Kilchoinlim, Drummin, &c.

Abertarf came to the Family of Lovat by marriage, and was sold to MacDonald of Glengarry, as above related. A small glen, or valley, called Glendoe, runneth up into the hills near the south end of the Loch, and upon the banks of the water Doe, are Molagan, Glendoe, &c., but the main part of this parish lieth upon the rivers of Tarf and Eoich. Tarf, a rapid stream, riseth in the hill of Corryrack, near Gamrvaore, in Badenoch, and running north-west, falleth into the south end of Loch Ness. On the banks of it, in the face of the hill, are some corn lands, and at the mouth of it is Kilhuiman, Borlum, &c. The river Eoich is the great source of the Ness, rising out of Loch Eoich, and running 4 miles north-east, falleth with a deep stream into Loch Ness. In the point between Eoich and Tarf, standeth Fort Augustus. On the west side, at the mouth of the Eoich, is Inshnakirdich, the seat of Fraser of Coulduthill, and south from it are the lands of Pitmean.

#### THE TOMB OF THE LOVATS.

A correspondent writes to us (5 Jan., 1881):—"I lately visited the Kilmuir Churchyard, which is situated about

half a mile from the hotel at Dunvegan, alongside the public road leading to Portree. In the middle there is a ruin of an old Catholic Church, used now as the family burying-place of Macleod of Macleod. We spent a great deal of the day reading inscriptions on the tomb-stones. Our special attention was attracted to one of these, which we have no doubt will interest a good many of your readers. The edifice on which this inscription was is in the form of a pyramid, which was built over the tomb of one of the Lovats, and is situated immediately in front of the chapel ruins. There was a small tablet on it facing to the west, but through the effects of inclement weather of ages this tablet fell a number of years ago, and broke in pieces, by which a part of the inscription is obliterated, but, by putting the broken pieces together, it reads thus:—'This Pyramid was erected by Simon, Lord Fraser of Lovat, in Honour of Lord Thomas, his father, a Peer of Scotland, and Chief of the great and ancient Clan of the Frasers. Being attacked for his birthright by the family of Athole, then in power and favour with King William, yet, by the valour and fidelity of his clan, the alliance of the Campbell's, the old friends and allies of the family, he defended his birthright with such greatness and bravery of soul, and such valour and activity, that he was an honour to his name and good pattern to all brave Chiefs of Clans. He died in the month of May, 1699, in the 63 year of his age, in Dunvegan Castle, house of the Laird of Macleod, whose sister he married, and by whom he had the above Simon, Lord of Lovat, and—(few words here obliterated)—children, and for the great love he bore to the family of Macleod, he desired to be buried near his wife's relatives, the place where two of her uncles lay, and his son, Lord Simon, to show the posterity his great affection for his mother's kindred, the brave Macleods, chooses rather to leave his father's bones with them than carry them to his own burial-place near Lovat.'—(ED.)

#### BOLESKIN.

[*Situation, Soil, Climate.*—The island of Great Britain is intersected by plains, or valleys, depressed almost to the level of the surrounding main, in four different tracks, from the one shore to the other. The first may be conceived along the southern side of the Cheviot hills, where



Scotland borders with England, from the Solway Frith to the influx of the Tyne. The second lies along the great canal, from the Frith of Clyde to the estuary of the Forth. The third, beginning also from the shore of the Clyde, lower down at Dumbarton, stretches through the broadest and most central parts of the kingdom, along the southern base of the Grampian mountains to Stonehaven on the eastern shore. The last is stretched from the Atlantic at Fort William, through the parishes of Kilmanivack, Boleskin, and Durris, to the Murray Frith at Inverness.

Imagination may easily conceive the Continent to have once extended entire to the northern extremity of the Orkney Isles; and the Pentland Frith to have been only a deep valley, similar to these so little raised above the level of the sea, or composed of such yielding materials as to have given way in some storm to the violence of the weighty surge, impelled by all the power of the western wind, rushing on unchecked from the American shore. The headlands, stretching out to each other from the opposite sides of the Frith, seem to suggest the idea of some violent disruption. Thus Duncan's Bay Head projects a ridgy bottom, so high as to form a ripple both by the flowing and ebbing tide, called *the Boars of Duncan's Bay*, similar to the swell of the same name at the mouth of the river Indus. The Pentland Skerries still remain in the same direction, and are met by the Lowther Rock, covered only during the tide, projected from the island of South Rhonaldshay on the other side. In the same manner St. John's Head sends out a ridge, which forms the breakers called *the merry men of May*, meeting a swell off Cantie Head, upon the opposite shore of the island of Walls; while the lofty Cape of Dunnet frowns against its rival the Beary (the Berubium of Ptolemy), on the western end of the same island. The probability of such a junction is not less than that of Dover with the opposite coast of France. If the extreme rapidity of the tide, driving through the Pentland Frith, had ever been altogether stopped, as it is sometimes partially checked by the wind, there is no doubt but the sea must have risen higher and flowed farther in upon the shores of the Moray Frith than now.

The parish of Boleskin, with the Lake of Ness upon its

western side, occupies a section of the last of these valleys that have been described. Abertarff, a district of this parish, lies nearly on a level with the lake upon its southern end, as has been already noted. The other district, named Stratherick, may be conceived a valley parallel to the lake, about 300 feet above its level, and screened from its view by an intervening rocky ridge rising still higher, and stretched the whole length of the lake. The side of this ridge, which faces the lake, rises to a great height, and with a steepness almost perpendicular, from the very edge of the water, and save 2 or 3 small plots, admits not of cultivation throughout its whole length of 22 miles, from the Church of Durris to the citadel of Fort Augustus. The road from Inverness to this fortress is cut out for more than 12 miles upon the side of this rocky steep, as far as the Fall of Foyers. It has been formed by great labour, and at much expense, under the conduct of General Wade, who was then quartered in a slope of the mountain, thence distinguished by the appellation of *the General's hut*, the present station of the inn, about a mile distant from the fall. This road is not unpleasant riding, being hard, smooth, and level; it is frequently immersed in wood, of birch and hazel, but in general it is open enough to admit a view of the waters of the lake far below, waving their surface in gentle undulation towards the precipitous shore, and the summits of the lofty mountains towering high upon either of its sides. Above the zone of the woods the mountains are reared up in sterile nakedness, the brown heath and grey rock but little diversified by a few small streams trickling down the steep. Sometimes the road is cut along, and sometimes around the rocky sides of the hill, forming on the one hand a black insurmountable wall, on the other an alarming precipice overhanging the deep lake, that even the stumbling only of the horse impresses the idea of inevitable destruction. This route is generally described as pleasant and romantic, yet the unvaried landscape, consisting of little besides the long narrow reach of the lake below and the sky above, while the steepness of the mountain admits of no deviation from the path, impresses a languor, after proceeding a little way, with the idea of dereliction and restraint; for no habitation, no trace of the works of man are seen, save



the desolation of the Castle of Urquhart rising out of the water on the other side, which is but little relieved by a deserted Church in ruins, and a lonesome Burying-ground, by which the road winds, near the summit of the ridge. In ancient times it might have been the sequestered residence of some holy hermit, and in that regard might have been chosen for the situation of the parish Church, of late more conveniently placed in the interior of the country, and more central upon the other side of this interposing ridge.

The common soundings of the lake of Ness are from 116 to 120 fathoms, in one place they ran to 135. By floods or sudden thaws, it is raised about 10 feet above the lowest watermark. The depth even at the very sides would admit a ship of any burden to sail from the one end to the other. Though widening considerably toward its southern end, where it is about 2 miles in breadth, its sides are straight over its whole length as the even banks of an artificial canal, save the Bay where the river of Urquhart falls in. To accomplish its navigation by sails requires 3 days of moderately favourable wind, as the vessel must anchor during the dark, which, excepting at the ends, in Urquhart Bay, and the Creek called the Horse Shoe, can be only done at Aultsay and Portclair on the western, and at the influx of the Faragack and Feachlin on the eastern side. Excepting an accidental blast from either of these glens, or an eddy squall from any of the more elevated summits of the enclosing ridges, the winds must always blow right along the lake; yet were the navigation between the seas completed, a path could be formed along the margin of the lake, and the trade in all weathers rendered certain and secure by the draught of horses.

This immense reservoir of water is distinguished by two peculiarities, drawn either from the lake or river; it is laxative to people who are not accustomed to drink it, and it has the same effect on horses unhabituated to its use. Such, therefore, at the town of Inverness are invariably conducted to another stream. Besides this, neither the lake nor river was ever known to be frozen by the most intense cold experienced in a latitude so high as nearly the 58th degree. No chemical analysis has been attempted for investigating the causes of these

qualities. When drawn either from the lake or river, it freezes as quickly as any other water, even in the carriage to any part of the town distant from the river, it is sometimes frozen by the way; yet during the most intense frosts both the lake and river smoke, a thick fog hangs over them, mitigating the cold to some distance upon either side, and linens, stiffened by the frost, are dipped in the river to be thawed. There is not the least degree of current in any part of the lake, and the river runs gently onwards to the Frith, never overflowing its banks, in a channel whose fall is scarcely 10 feet. There cannot be much difference, therefore, in the level between the fresh water and the salt; and without regarding the soundings by Mr. Scott and Capt. Orton, who did not reach the bottom with 500 fathoms, the depth of the Lake is probably greater than that of the Frith. Both these properties may be therefore probably derived from the same causes in general, which produce hot springs, or from some unexplored connection with volcanic fire. This idea is countenanced by the extraordinary manner in which the Lake was affected on the 1st of November, 1755, during the time of the awful earthquake at Lisbon. Raised above the surface, near the indraught of the river, the water flowed up the Lake with vast impetuosity, and drove up more than 200 yards against the rapid current of the river Eoich, breaking on its banks in a wave about 3 feet high. It thus continued, in alarming agitation, to flow and ebb for more than an hour. About 11 o'clock a wave, higher than any of the rest, loaded with brushwood, drove up the river, and overflowed to the extent of 30 feet upon the bank. A boat near the General's Hut was three times dashed on shore, and twice carried back; the rudder at the second time was broken, the boat filled with water, the loading of timber dashed out and left upon the shore. Although this commotion at the bottom of the Lake affected the fluid so powerfully through all its depth, it was yet unable to shake the solid earth, through a mass but of equal height only with the water, for no degree of agitation was in any place perceptible on land.

The vale of Stratheric is separated from Laggan and Kingussie, on the banks of the Spey, by a wide and desert mountain. It is watered by two considerable streams—the Faragack from its northern, and the Feach-



lin from its southern end. It might be conceived that this vale had been itself a lake, till its waters forced their passage down through the rocky mound to Loughness. The Faragack has torn the mountain sloping uniformly from its summit to the base; the impending rugged rocky banks of the channel bear testimony of the violence of the disruption.

The Feachlin has been opposed by more solid materials, although its influx is only about 2 miles distant from the other. Winding for 10 or 12 miles from the extremity of the glen, and in its progress collecting many streams from the mountain on the south or east, and grown into a river of no small consideration, its current turned towards the lake, forced its passage also through the intervening ridge. Just entering within its rocky jaws, it pours perpendicularly from the cliff about the height of 30 feet, in a form resembling the unequal columns of a great cathedral organ, into an abyss every way environed by uncouth and rugged masses of sable rock, to the height of more than 60 feet above its tumultuous surface, save the breach through which its course is continued, which is covered by a narrow stone bridge fully in the front of this thundering torrent, boiling in the cavern which itself has hollowed, in turbulent, foaming, and ceaseless ebullition, as if some vast subterranean fire glowed intensely underneath this horrible cauldron. Its effect is greatly heightened by the dark red tinge which the river for the most part bears, from the peat soil of the mountain through which its several currents flow. Considerably farther within this sinuous chasm is the grand cataract, the celebrated Fall of Foyers. A profile view of it may be easily obtained from the highway, where a wall of substantial masonry prevents the danger of falling over the verge of the gulph; but to gain a nearer view, and in the front, requires a guide aslant the side of the profound steep, down to a grassy hillock, projected half across the chasm, which is readily by some neighbouring cottagers supplied. The greatness of the effect is even somewhat augmented by this perilous approach, which cannot be accomplished but by clinging from space to space to some straggling tree, or hanging by some bush, whilst the foot, unseen, is groping for a hold underneath. The river at times is descried at a vast distance

below, increasing its tumult as it advances, struggling among the multiform masses of rock which embroil its course, and roaring against the opposing cliffs which shoot rudely from the sides of its torn channel; meanwhile the hoarse roar of the unseen cataract swells louder on the ear, the hoary vapour is beheld in turbulent eddies, and in rapid ascent over the gulph, as the dense smoke of some bursting volcano.

Gaining at last the lowest ledge of the rock, a pinnacle detached from, but every way environed by the craggy steep, which from thence seems unsurmountable, though scarcely lower than the middle of the fall, the attention is overpowered, and the astonished view arrested by this august object!

The river is beheld edgeways shot from a cleft, a resistless rapid column, about a yard in thickness, and 20 feet in height. Its breadth upon the upper side remaining still unseen, it dashes with so much momentum upon a slanting shelf of the rock as to be entirely divested of the appearance of the element of water in any of its forms, but forced into the semblance of furiously drifted snow. It hisses down the slanting steep, broad spreading as it drives into the unexplored profound at the depth of 80 or 100 feet below the shelf by which the column is first broken, where, clashing not in union with deep roar above, it imperceptibly resumes its elemental form, and seems feebly to simmer off from the bottom of the rock through a pool that might be imagined to be of no uncommon depth; even the red tinge of mountain soil, which was wholly dispelled as it drifted down the steep, is also unexpectedly restored.

The remaining part of its course is continued placidly for a short space between the wooded cliffs; it then meets the lake in a plain of no great extent, formed probably by the alluvion of its own current, as it is the only field upon the eastern border of this long expanse, decorated by the family seat and gardens of Mr. Fraser of Foyers, an agreeable but seemingly a solitary residence.

In the contemplation of a scene so sublimely august, which, day after day and year after year, continues its perennial turbulence and thunder, without rest or cessation, the feebleness of man, and the short-abiding power of mortal energy, are deeply impressed upon the mind;



sentiments of reverence spontaneously arise for that Almighty Being who at the first arranged the springs of nature, and regulates for ever its unconscious, though varied, and most powerful exertion.

The soil is, in general, a light and gravelly loam, in some places moorish. The climate may be accounted, on the whole, rather severe than mildly temperate throughout the greatest proportion of the year; yet in summer it is sometimes unpropitiously dry, and it would be reckoned early, were not the harvests generally retarded by rains which frequently begin to fall out about the equinox.

*State of Property.*—The parish is partitioned among 7 landholders. It comprehends a part of the Lovat fortune of the Honourable Archibald Fraser, equal to £2101 18s. 4d. Scots. Simon Fraser of Foyers, Esq., holds £463 13s. 4d. Simon Fraser of Faralin, Esq., holds £82, 4s. 10d. James Fraser of Gortuleg, Esq., holds £38 13s. 11d. Captain Fraser of Knocky amounts to £163 Scots. Captain Fraser of Ardachy, £141 17s. Scots. And Alexander Macdonald of Glengarry, Esq., £308 5s. 8d. Scots, in which the valuation of the property of the Crown is included, being a farm, and part of the appointment of the Deputy-Governor of Fort Augustus, and the ground occupied by the citadel itself, extending the whole valuation to the sum of £3299, 13s. 1d. Scots. There are some of the lands in the personal occupation of the proprietors. The farms let to tenants are in general comprehended under a small extent of arable field, to which, however, there are some exceptions where the rent rises to above £50 in the year. The average rent of the acre of the arable land may be estimated at 16s., but the pasturage connected prevents it from being accurately ascertained.

*State Ecclesiastical.*—The Church is now placed about 3 miles up the river above the Fall, and about a mile eastward from the bank. The living, including the allowance for the Communion, is £105. The right of patronage is a pertinent of the Lovat estate. The appointment of the missionary resident at Fort Augustus, and the extent of his charge, has been mentioned in the preceding number. In the central parts of the parish, between the Fall and Fort Augustus, the farmers hire a teacher for their children by a small subscription among themselves. The

conductor of the music employed in the public devotions of the Church, and the poor, which make up a pretty long roll, have a provision arising from the donations made in the religious congregations of the people, who, except a few of the Roman Catholic communion, are all members of the Established Church, amounting to the number of 1402.

*Miscellaneous Information.*—The original name of the ground where Fort Augustus stands was KILLIE-CHUMIN, *the burial-place of the Cumings*. The cause of this appellation is now wholly unknown. It may be conjectured that, similar to I'Columbkil, the cemetery of the monarchs of several kingdoms, the consecrated ground of the Chapel of Abertarf might have been appropriated by this ancient clan, during the period in which they numbered 14 titled chiefs, as the place of general interment.

The Citadel, rather in a beautiful than in a strong situation, is seated on a narrow plain, commanded by pretty high grounds upon the south and north. It has the great river Eoich, pouring a deep and rapid flood into the lake, upon the one side, and the gentle Tarff, gliding in a slender stream through the plain upon the other. Loughness washes the ramparts on the third side; they are composed of 4 bastions, and they afford accommodation for a garrison of 400 or 500 men. It was originally built about the year 1730, and received its present name in compliment to the father of George III. Its destruction by the rebels in 1746 has been incidentally mentioned above. It has contributed somewhat to the improved police of the country. The little sloop which rides under its walls adds greatly to the scenery of such a mountainous landscape, and it establishes the advantages of the navigation of the Lake.] (*Survey of the Province of Moray.*)

#### KILMANIVACK PARISH.

A small part only of this parish lieth within the Province of Moray, viz., Glengary and Achadrom. From Loch Ness, to Loch Eoich, are 4 miles, a part of Abertarf. Loch Eoich is 4 miles long,



from north to south, and 1 mile broad. From the south end of Loch Eoich, to the north end of Loch Lochie (the utmost boundary of Moray) is 1 mile, called Achadrom; a fertile little valley, not above a half mile broad, betwixt chains of high hills. Here are Lagan-Achadrom, Dunan, Kyleross, &c. The country of Glengary lieth on the west bank of Loch Eoich, and stretcheth into the hills westward, on both sides of Loch Garie, 7 miles. It is a rough, unequal valley, full of birch wood, but warm and fertile. At the mouth of the River Garie, where it falleth into Loch Eoich, is Invergary, the seat of Alexander MacDonald of Glengary. And, in this glen, are the seats of several gentlemen, such as Lic, Lundie, Ardnabee, &c. The inhabitants of Achadrom are Kennedies, called Clan Ulric, from one Ulric Kennedy, of whom they are said to have descended.

Glengary is planted by MacDonalds, a branch, it is said, of the Clan Ronald, or MacDonalds of Moidart. Lord MacDonald of Aros (descended of MacDonald Earl of Ross), having died in 1680 without issue, the honours became extinct, and his estate (by a marriage connection) came to Glengary; by which means the fortune of the family lies in Glengary, Abertarf, and Knoidart, and is very considerable.

## MACDONALD OF GLENGARY.

The MacDonalds derive themselves from Colla Uais, King of Ireland, in Century IV., and are said to have come to Scotland in the reign of Malcolm Canmore. They have spread into many branches of which the family of Glengary (descended of the Clan Ronalds of Moidart) are as follows:—

John, Lord of the Isles, had a son Ranald, who, by a daughter of MacDougal of Lorn, had two sons, viz., Allan of Moidart, and Donald of Glengary. (1) Donald was father of (2) Alexander, father of (3) Alexander, who married Margaret, heiress of MacDonald of Loch Alsh, and had Alexander and Angus, ancestor of Lord MacDonald of Aros, and died about the year 1515. (4) Alexander married a daughter of MacKenzie of Kintail, and dying about 1550, was succeeded by his son (5) Alexander, who married a daughter of Lachlan More of MacIntosh; and dying anno 1604, his son (6) Æneas, married a daughter of MacIntosh, and had Alexander and Angus of Scothouse; and having been killed by the MacKenzies, before his father's death (7) Alexander succeeded his grandfather, and by a daughter of Lord Lovat, had Donald Gorm, and Alexander; and upon the demise of Lord MacDonald, anno 1680 without issue, Alexander obtained his estate, and died about 1685. (8)



Donald Gorm, was killed at Killiecrankie 1689, unmarried. His brother (9) Alexander, married a daughter of Seaforth, by whom he had John, Ranald, and Donald. His loyalty led him into the Battles of Killiecrankie 1689, Cromdale 1690, and Sheriffmuir 1715, and dying in 1724; (10) John, by MacKenzie, had Alexander, and Angus of Tyndrish; and by a daughter of Glenbuckit, had James and Charles. And dying in 1754 (11) Alexander being a prisoner in London in 1745, his brother Angus led the Glengary men to that rebellion, and was himself killed at Falkirk, in January, 1746, by an accidental shot. Alexander returned home, and died unmarried, anno 1761, and was succeeded by the son of Angus, by a niece of Struan, viz., Duncan, now of Glengary, who married Marjory, daughter of Sir Lewis Grant of Dalvey, and has issue.

From the frequency of the name Alexander, the Chief of this Family, is called *Mac-Mhic-Alister*.

I now return, by the west side of Loch Ness, to

#### URQUHART PARISH.

The parish of Urquhart and Glenmoriston, which lie on the west side of the loch, over against Stratherick. Urquhart stretcheth up into the hills westwards towards the Aird, about 5 miles, and is a warm and fertile valley.

The Church standeth near a mile west from

the loch, 12 miles south-west from Inverness. The Castle or Fort stood on the edge of the Loch. In the valley is Corimonie, a feu-holding pertaining to a branch of the Grants; Shoglie, a mortgage of a Cadet of Corimonie; Achmonie, the heritage of a gentleman of the name of MacKay, or rather MacDonald. All the rest of the parish is the property of Sir James Grant of Grant. Urquhart was probably a part of the estate of Cummine Lord Badenoch, upon whose forfeiture it was granted to Randolph Earl of Moray. The *MS. History of the Family of Sutherland* bears, that, in 1359, King David II. gave the barony and Castle of Urquhart to William, Earl of Sutherland, and his heirs. If so, the grant was afterwards revoked. It is true, Urquhart was excepted out of the grant to John Dunbar, Earl of Moray, anno 1372; and upon the forfeiture of Earl Archibald Douglas, anno 1455, Urquhart was annexed to the Crown. In a decreet arbitral, betwixt Duncan MacIntosh, Captain of Clan Chattan, and Hutcheon Rose of Kilravock, anno 1479, the possession and Duchus of Urquhart is adjudged to Kilravock (*Pen. Kiltr.*); and in 1482, the Earl of Huntley gave Kilravock a discharge of the rents of Urquhart and Glenmoriston (*Pen. Kiltr.*). What right Huntly had to these lands, I know not, if it was not as factor for the Crown. I incline to think, that after the death of Earl John Randolph, in 1346, the barony



of Urquhart was the salary of the governor of that Fort, until it was no longer garrisoned (*Vide Milit. Hist.*). Be this as it will, the Laird of Grant purchased Urquhart and Glenmoriston, in the reign of King James VI.

Glenmoriston is distant from Urquhart southward 8 miles of hills. The River Moriston riseth in the hills of Glensheil, near Kintail, passeth through Loch Clunie, watereth Glenmoriston, and after a course of above 30 miles, emptieth into Loch Ness, 4 miles below Fort Augustus. The inhabited Glen extends 8 miles in length, from the mouth of the river, but the breadth is inconsiderable. The whole valley is warm, fertile, and well inhabited. It is a part of the barony of Urquhart, and has been the heritage of Grant of Glenmoriston, for above 200 years; that family has a good house at Invermoriston, on the bank of Loch Ness. Urquhart and Glenmoriston are separated from Kirkill and Kiltarlathie, by a ridge of hills.

#### URQUHART.

[*Situation, Soil, Climate.*—The course of this survey has been hitherto conducted from the east, towards the west; but it is directed southward from the banks of the Beaulie, along the western limits of the Province, to the sources of the Spey.

The parish of Urquhart skirts along the southern limits of those of Inverness, Kirkhill, and Kiltarlithy, sweeping also in part by the eastern boundary of those of Kilmorac, Kintail, and Glensheal, to where the parish of Kilmanivack, stretched from the Atlantic Ocean, conjoins with that of Boleskin, bending round from the east, across the

western termination of Lough Ness. The communication from the town of Inverness, on the eastern coast, to Fort William on the western shore, opened along the length of Lough Ness, has led its course, in a general view, to be considered in the same direction: but although the termination of the lake at Fort Augustus be greatly to the westward of Inverness, it is also so much to the south, that if the cardinal points of the compass are only in regard, its course with more accuracy may be considered as lying in the direction of north and south. Accordingly in Urquhart, the whole eastern side of the parish is described as being washed by the waters of the lake, by which it is separated from Boleskin on the other side.

By the lofty mountain of Mholfourvonnie, the parish is divided into two districts, Urquhart upon its northern, and Glenmoriston on its southern side; and they may be both conceived as valleys stretching nearly parallel, towards the west, from the margin of the lake. That of Urquhart, a little inward, divides itself into two, by extending a branch southerly into the skirts of Mholfourvonnie. Each branch is watered by its own blue stream, which, meeting in their courses, have opened, as it were, the country to the breadth of several miles of plain; and they deliver their water into a bay, expanded to a considerable length from the lake, and more than a mile in breadth, the only place where the lake of Ness is not bounded by rock upon either of its sides.

The mountain of Mholfourvonnie rises almost perpendicular, in one uniform face from the lake, to the height of 3060 feet. On the other three sides, a rounded rocky peak hath shot up about a fifth part higher than the general elevation of the mountain. From this it seems to have derived its appellation, signifying in the Gaelic, *a cold wart, or excrescence of a hill*. Upon the western side, at the bottom of the peak, is a small lake, which makes a conspicuous figure among the fictions of all the systems of geography, and which otherwise in this place would have met with no regard. Its surface is equal to about 4 acres: it is supported by springs, and the rains which drift pretty frequent around the sides of the peak. In dry weather, the evaporation is equal to the water it receives: in seasons of rain, it emits a small stream from its southern end. It might be inferred, from its being



well stocked with trout, which require an extent, proportional to their number, of moderately shallow water, that it is nowhere of unfathomable depth; which has of late been ascertained to be the fact, by the minister of the parish and another gentleman. From its situation so far within the stormy wilderness, it is more than probable, that it has never been beheld during any intense frost. The trout are in such numbers as to have distinguished this little lake by their own Gaelic characteristic, namely, *the lake of the red-bellied trout*.

The prospect from the summit of the peak is highly interesting: the faculty of vision itself seems to have received additional power: the view is chiefly extended in the course of east and west, commanding an extent from the environs of Fort George nearly to Fort William. The whole expanse of the lake lies together under the eye, but at such a distance below, as to suggest the idea of a narrow ditch, deep sunk within steep banks. The distant horizon from the west, round over the north, is bounded by the mountains through Ross and Sutherland, to the shores of Caithness; and though nothing but the dun waste, thinly diversified by the glittering of scattered lakes, is to be seen, a trackless desert of boundless extent, yet it is hardly possible to banish the idea of the many fertile peopled vales, with the various toils and luxuries, pains and pleasures, which form this station are so completely overlooked. The whole district of Stratherie is displayed upon the opposite side as a painted landscape under the eye; but though the peak itself may be descried by the mariner, immediately on his clearing Kinnaird's Head, where the Moray Firth is lost in the German Ocean, yet the prospect is bounded by the mountain between Stratherie and the course of the Spey. The Fall of Foyers, directly over against the peak, upon the other side of the lake, at the distance of nearly 6 miles, in a right line from the eye, is among the most interesting objects. Its white spray, contrasted with the bleak mountain through which it dashes down, resembles the lights of the sky seen through the arch of a distant gateway: its roar meanwhile grows or dies upon the ear, as the airy breeze propels or bears away the sound. The valley of Glenmoriston may be distinctly traced for 20 miles westerly from the lake; it is inhabited only for

about the half of that length, and its breadth is nowhere considerable: it opens at the distance of 10 miles from the influx of the river of Urquhart. The road between winds over the declivities in the precipitous face of Mhalfourvonnie, much encumbered by loose angular fragments of the rock. The path too narrow for a carriage, along the verge of the wooded steep which overhangs the lake, is carried over the stream of Altkenis upon an ancient arch, named *Trochet-na-cre-kit-renish*, the bridge of the wooded rocks. Glenmoriston itself, signifying the great valley of the deep cascade, opens on the lake between the fronts of two lofty cliffs, reared up in gloomy grandeur: the one is called *Craig-kinian*, the giant's rock; the other, a sable peak, projecting over the lake, is denominated *Struan-muich*, the promontory of the boar. The wildness of these characteristic appellations distinguishes these interior regions no less than the striking appearance of their sublime scenery. The road is continued to Fort Augustus, across the river of Moriston, by an elegant light bridge of two arches, meeting on a great rock in the middle of the stream, with a pretty cascade in each of its channels. A trim path winds down the river, through a grove upon the level bank, for about 300 paces, to a neat octagon building, overhanging the margin just before the great fall. Although the river has its origin far distant in Glensheal, forming in its progress the long-winding lake of Clunie, yet the volume of water is not so large as that which forms the Fall of Kilmorack; but the height from which it is precipitated is nearly the same. The torrent, however, spreads to a greater breadth, and advances with rapidity and increasing tumult to the farthest verge of the gulph; and broken by a rock in its fall, it tosses itself into spray and foam, and at times, from some slight alteration perhaps in the pressure of the atmosphere, as if animated by some internal impetus of the stream, it bounds considerably higher than its ordinary repercussion, which adds much to the vivacity of this fascinating object. Here, too, as at Kilmorac, and with no better success, the salmon attempt to vault over the fall, and by a pole similarly armed with hooks, many with dexterity are occasionally caught, in the momentary flash of their ill-fated bound. Below the cataract, the river sweeps round in the sullen eddies of a deep and



gloomy pool, seeming to pause in the shadow of the dark surrounding cliffs and overhanging hills. Then on a sudden it bursts away in a straight and narrow channel, through which it shoots in deepened and condensed rapidity, rushing with a whizzing din along the sides of the rock, cut down by its own ceaseless violence, driving on resistless, amid the echoes of the impending cliffs and high towering hills.

In both districts the soil is light and warm: in Urquhart, it is a fertile, though not a deep loam; in Glenmoriston, it is inferior, in general sandy and light. The arable grounds are pleasantly interspersed with pasturage, and sheltered by natural groves, varied by murmuring brooks. In one of them is the distinguished Fall of Divah, about 100 feet of perpendicular height: a winding path through a wooded bank leads easily to its bottom; a volume of water only is wanting for the completion of its grandeur. The close shelter of the woods, and the warm reflection of the sun from the rocks, have ranked this country among the earlier Highland districts: yet in autumn the return of rain is so unwelcomely frequent, as seldom to admit of saving the corn in the open air. Fabrics, therefore, peculiar for this purpose, are pretty generally erected: the roof between ordinary gables is supported upon timber posts, and it projects almost a yard over the sides, which are wattled with wands neatly trimmed; the inside is fitted up with rails, in which pegs are fastened, upon each of which, like the muskets in an armoury, a single sheaf is separately hung, where in a short time they become so dry, in any weather, as to keep otherwise safe, when their removal makes way for the crop of another field. Such dryhouses are common upon the western coast. On smaller farms, the walls of the barns are built of angular stone, in such an open manner as to admit, or rather draw in, the wind, while the rain trickles down along the outside.

*State of Property.*—James Grant, Esq., Advocate, the author of *Essays on the Gaelic tongue*, and on the manners of the Celts—a subject which the distinguished ingenuity and abilities of the author have not been able to make generally interesting now—has his paternal seat at Corrymonie, signifying in the Gaelic *St. Mona's hollow* or *valley*, transmitted through a line of ancestors reaching

back to the year 1509, in the reign of James IV. It is situated in the mountains towards Killtarlity, and upon the sources of the river of Urquhart. It is the farthest cultivated land in that district, the desert stretching beyond unbroken almost to the western shore. The building, although not modern, is plain, without turrets, or any ornament of architecture; but it is embellished by groves, a garden, and inclosed fields, and those bewitching beauties of a mountainous and stormy region, so inexplicably fascinating to the natives educated among them. The valued rent of this ancient inheritance amounts to £210 Scots.

The whole district of Glenmoriston is the property of Major John Grant, and an inheritance coeval with that of Corrymonie. The family seat stands upon the side of Loughness, at such a distance from the cataract, as to be soothed only by its gentle and uniform murmur. It is a plain but commodious mansion, commanding an extensive and varied view of the lake, woods, and rocky mountains; but except the House of Foyers, far distant on the other side of the lake, it is not in sight of any other dwelling, and of the little cultivated field only in its own environs. In its close vicinity, there is a pretty handsome building, erected about the year 1760 by the trustees of the forfeited estates, to promote the industry of the Highland lasses, to instruct them in spinning fine yarn, and in some other domestic arts, rendering their time more valuable, and making the youth of both sexes better acquainted with the advantages of diligence and the blessings of industry; in the knowledge of which they might be still improved. This building, converted now to less interesting purposes, is not the seat of any manufacture, and remains the monument only of laudable design. The valued rent of Glenmoriston is £896 10s. Its principal crops are, black oats, potatoe, bear: a little rye, and white oats, and cultivated grass, may be also produced: it supports about 500 milch cows, and about 1000 other black cattle: with a proportion of these, it spares also butter and cheese; but the country was not able to supply provision for its own inhabitants, about 600 souls, before the general cultivation of potatoe. Besides the sheep it can now spare, it also disposes yearly of a considerable number of horses.



The rest of the parish, valued at £1113 5s. Scots, is the property of Sir James Grant of Grant, Bart.; extending its whole valuation to £2219 15s. Scots. There is a great proportion of the parish occupied in farms of respectable extent, varying from about £50 to about £100 of rent. Among these also, are several handsome buildings, occupied by gentlemen who cultivate this sequestered vale, and live happily in each other's sociality. Three of these, Shewglie, Lockletter, and Lakefield, are pleasantly situated round the borders of a little lake in the course of the river of Urquhart, about 1 mile in length, and more than half a mile in breadth. The cut freestone of the House of Lakefield, which is on the property of Corrymonie, was carried from the shore of Duffus, at the expense of more than £50. Sir James Grant has also built a neat commodious mansion in the beautiful situation of Ballnaceau, and where he occasionally visits. The greater number of the tenants hold small farms, reaching from less than £1 to £7, or £15. The average value of the acre may be estimated at 18s. A very considerable revenue is derived from the wood, part of which is burned in making red herring in Caithness, transported by the lake and river of Ness to the boats which receive it in the Firth. The number of black cattle in the Urquhart district are reckoned to amount to 2400, of which the third part are milch cows. The real rent of the whole parish is not supposed to exceed £3000 sterling.

*State Ecclesiastical.*—The gradual organisation of the Church of Scotland into the local unconnected judicatures of Presbyteries and Synods has been already noticed. It was not till the year 1724 that the Synod of Glenelg, consisting of 5 Presbyteries, and 29 Parishes, was at the first established. Prior to that period, the parishes of Urquhart, Boleskin, and Laggan, appertained to the Synod of Moray; with Killmallie and Kilmanivak, they now compose the Presbytery of Abertarff: the two last were never in any shape connected with the Province of Moray.

The Church is prettily placed in a wood upon the bank of the river, and near the head of the bay. For the accommodation of the upper part of the vale, there is also a Chapel, about two-thirds of the way from the lake to Corrymonie, where public worship is celebrated every

third Sunday. The stipend, by a decree in 1796, is £105, including the allowance for the expense of the communion. The glebe is about 6 acres. Sir James Grant holds the right of patronage. The parochial school is in the vicinity of the Church, with the salary of £14 sterling, and the other whole emoluments equal to £10 more; it retains, at an average, about 50 scholars: reading English only, with writing and arithmetic, are taught.

In Highland districts, widely separated from each other in the trackless wilderness, the thousand pounds of Royal bounty are distributed with the most parsimonious economy: but had it been originally adjusted, so as to make one permanent establishment yearly, the whole Highlands ere now would have almost been sufficiently appointed with regular clergymen, each with a living of £50 sterling in the year, and this annual expenditure saved at the last. In the solitary glens of Kiltarlity and Kilmorack, the missionary, as has been noticed, toils laboriously in rotation through four separated congregations. In Glenmoriston, where the minister of the parish can only make occasional visitations, the public ordinances of the National religion are celebrated every third Sunday by the missionary established for that district, in connection with Abertarff in the parish of Boleskin, and Glengary in that of Kilmanivack, with a salary of £35 yearly. The committee for managing this bounty have also appointed a catechist for the whole parish, with an allowance of £12 yearly. The Society for Christian Knowledge have established a school in Glenmoriston, and another in the interior, upon the river of Urquhart; the first with an appointment of £15 yearly, and the other with one of £10, to which £4 is added to his spouse, as mistress for the girls in sewing. The statutory accommodations of a house, kitchen garden, and the means of supporting a cow, are furnished in the districts. Both masters teach the reading of the Scriptures in the Gaelic as well as in the English tongue: and both also, as well as the catechist, are most assiduous in waiting on the people most remote from the situations of public worship; instructing them on the Sundays in the principles and duties of religion, in assisting their devotions by prayer, and their Christian edification by reading the Holy Scriptures. The Society, with the country, are taking measures for establishing



another school in the track of country between the two districts, about the skirts of Mhalfourvonnie.

In Urquhart, the number of the poor on the roll is about 30; with a capital of £100 bearing interest, the contributions in the assemblies of public worship make the fund equal to £15 yearly for their support; from which £2 4s. 6d. is allocated to the Clerk and Session officer. The fund for the poor of Glenmoriston, kept wholly apart from the other, is only about £3 of Church contributions, and the interest of £25, although their roll of poor exceeds that of the other district.

The number of the inhabitants in the whole parish, by an accurate enumeration obtained since the Population Table was printed, amounts to 2355, exceeding the number stated in that Table by 306, and making the increase of the whole population of the province, since the year 1755, equal to 537, instead of the 254 there stated. The whole inhabitants of both districts are of the National religion, except about 80 of the people of Glenmoriston, many of whom, in the absence of their own Roman Catholic clergyman, attend the meeting of their Protestant brethren.

*Miscellaneous Information.*—Before the year 1746, the parish was much distressed by the depredations of their neighbours in the western Highlands, who plundered their cattle and other property. The advantages of good government having reached the most uncivilised quarters of the island, property is now completely secure. For more than 30 years, all differences among the people have been most satisfactorily adjusted by a gentleman in the country, in the character of Baron of Bailie; the people's money is thereby saved, and even the spirit itself of litigation dies gradually away. The people are religious, industrious, and loyal. In the year 1793, 80 men entered cheerfully into the first fencible regiment. At present there is one company of volunteers in Urquhart, of 60 men; and one in Glenmoriston, of 40. The length of the road that has been made, and is kept in repair by the parish, is about 50 miles. The fund for this object is a commutation for the statute labour of 2s. from each male above 15 years of age, and about £9 assessed on the valued rent, at 1d. sterling upon the pound Scots, amounting together to about the sum of

580. The road from Inverness to the inn on the bank of the river of Urquhart, about 15 miles, was a grand undertaking: for a great way through the rocks of Ahrichan, it required in many places the blast of gunpowder; besides the perseverance of the people, the county aid, and liberal subscriptions from the proprietors and gentlemen of the parish were bestowed. The modes of agriculture among the gentlemen are the same as in the low country. Sir James Grant has encouraged the improvement of his estate by donations of grass seeds to the smaller tenants: and he has built a lint mill, and gives similar donations of lint seed: and the appearance of the people is much improved, by being dressed in linen of their own raising and manufacture.

There is plenty of limestone on Sir James Grant's estate, and he encourages its application as a manure by the free use of the quarry: and by quarrying the stone at his own expense, and calcining it also for the poorer tenants, for cultivating ground in the waste, at the rate of about 300 bushels to the acre, and from the expense of fuel, the expense of each bushel is estimated at 4d. more than 100 acres of waste have of late been gained; and the rents have been increased almost threefold in the course of the last 30 years: yet the situation and comforts of the people have been also in the same time greatly ameliorated. The price of provisions is regulated by the market of Inverness. Unmarried farm servants have raised their wages to about £5 sterling in the year; and women servants to half that sum: a day labourer, without victuals, gets 1s.

The Castle of Urquhart has been already described. It may be inferred, from its being an object of so much importance in the regard of Edward, the monarch of England, that we are not well informed of the state and circumstances of society in ancient times. Its walls are still decorated with a considerable quantity of cut freestone of a coarse texture and hardy quality: but the conjecture is hopeless about where it was found, and by what means it was transported; when it is considered, that a gentleman now found it most convenient to import the cut stone for his house from the quarries on the coast of Duffus.] (*Survey of the Province of Moray*.)



I now return to the Moray Firth, near Inverness, to take a view of

KIRKHILL PARISH.

The parish of Kirkhill, formerly called *Wardlaw*, because the garrison of Lovat kept ward or watch, on this law or hill. In Irish it is called *Knock-Mhuire*, i.e. Mary's Hill, dedicated to the B. Virgin. This parish stretcheth about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles on the side of the Firth, to the head of it at Beaulie; and from the head of the Firth about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles, up the east side of Beaulie river; and a ridge of hills to the east, separate it from the parish of Inverness.

The Church standeth an half mile from the sea, and as much from the river; near 5 miles west from Inverness, and near 3 miles north-east from Kiltarlaty. In the east of the parish, on the Firth, is Bunchrive, sold by Inveralachie to Forbes of Culloden (as also sold to him Ferintosh), anno 1673. Next westward on the Firth is Phopachie. A branch of the Frasers had this land in mortgage near 150 years, but it was redeemed by the late Lord Lovat. A mile farther west, on the Firth, is Newtoun, the seat of Fraser of Dunballoch, a gentleman of a good fortune, and a baron. At the mouth of the river Beaulie, stood the Tower and Fort of Lovat, anciently the seat of the Bissets of Lovat, and afterwards of the Frasers, pleasantly situated on

a rich and fertile soil. South of the Church is Achnagairn, the heritage of Duncan Fraser, Doctor of Medicine, descended of Fraser of Belladrum. At the foot of the hills eastward, is the barony of Relick, where James Fraser, lately of Relick built a neat and convenient house at Easter Moniack. And close by it is the tower of Wester Moniack, once the seat of Fraser of Strichen, and the land continued to be the property of that family, until it was lately sold to the last Lord Lovat. The whole of this parish is a rich soil, fertile in corn and pasture ground.

#### KIRKHILL.

[*Situation, Soil, Climate.*—This parish extends about 5 miles from that of Inverness along the Firth to its head, and nearly 3 miles farther upon the bank of the river Beaulie, to the limits of the parish of Killtarlity.

The plain or low country of Moray has been described as spread out along the shore, but contracting its breadth, as does also the firth, as they stretch towards the west. This great plain terminates upon the eastern confines of this parish, which may be conceived as an acclivity rising gently from the edge of the water to the breadth of nearly a mile. Westward of this, the Firth contracts so as to leave a plain along the bottom of a hill, which may be still regarded as one of those low ridges which it has been said diversify the champaign of Moray; for behind this hill there is a vale, as if the river Beaulie had once occupied its southern, as it does now its northern side, mixed with the tide: by these two plains and the intervening hill, the breadth of the parish in its western quarter is expanded to the breadth of 3 miles.

The soil in the lower part of the parish is a strong rich clay, producing, when properly cultivated, equal to any in Scotland; but with improper treatment, liable in a dry season, to bind so fast as to stint the crop, and in a rainy



spring to chill the seed with cold: as the country rises, the soil becomes a fertile loam, yielding, though at times a lighter, yet a less precarious crop; higher still in the country, the soil becomes lighter, incumbent on gravel, but in favourable seasons moderately productive.

The climate is temperate and mild, less exposed to rain than the countries on the south and west: and the harvest is generally concluded by the middle or end of October.

*State of Property.*—The valued rent of the parish, shared among five proprietors, extends to the sum of £2068 17s., of which the estate of Lovat comprises £1093 10s. 4d. Reclig, the property of Edward Simon Fraser, extends to £170. Newtown, the estate of Major Thomas Fraser, extends to £384. Lentron, the freehold of Thomas Warrand, Esq., to £288. And Arthur Forbes of Culloden, Esq., has a valuation of £133 6s. 8d. The extent of the farms are from £10 to £15 of rent; about the number of eight rise to the extent of from £30 to £60; and several artizans and labourers possess small farms, from 5s. to £5. The mean rent of the acre may be stated at 17s. 6d. exclusive of some lands, let about 30 years ago, that as yet have not risen above 10s. the acre: the real rent is about £2000 sterling. The number of horses about 400, the black cattle about 800, and the sheep about 1000, of which 200 are of the Bakewell breed.

*State Ecclesiastical.*—The parishes of Farmea and Wardlaw were united in 1618. In the original parish of Wardlaw, at present the western district, the Church at first was placed at Dunballach, nearly 2 miles up the river. By the Pope's Bull, it was translated to its present station as early as 1220. There is one of the highest summits of the ridge of hill upon the coast of Duffus, called also the *Wardlaw*, still bearing testimony by their names to that miserable government under which our ancestors for many generations found it necessary to keep ward, or a watch upon the most commanding eminence of every district, to guard against the sudden inroad of some plundering band, or the invasion of some more formidable foe. On more than one account, therefore, this hill was found to be the most eligible situation for the Parish Church. The name of the other constituent parish, denotes, in the Gaelic, that it was distinguished by groves of all trees, with which it is still to some consideration

embellished. The Gaelic name of the present parish is *Cnock mhuirie*, Mary's hill; having been a parsonage under the Roman Catholic dispensation, dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary. In the neighbourhood it is dignified by the name of "the hill"; but in English it is less eminently particularised by the appellation of "Kirkhill." The stipend, including the allowance for the Communion, amounts to £52 14s. 2d. and 40 bolls of bear, and 40 bolls of oatmeal, with a glebe of about 7 acres. The right of patronage appertains to the family of Lovat. The salary of the parochial school is £11 2s. 2d., with the fees from about 60 scholars, and the customary emoluments of the office of Session Clerk. The Society for Christian Knowledge have also established a school, with a salary of £12 sterling, which retains about 70 scholars.

The number of poor amounts to 50. The provision for them, made by the people in their assemblies for public worship, the hire of the pall, and the interest of a capital of £50, amounts in whole to about £14 in the year. The people altogether, excepting six Roman Catholics, are members of the National Church, and they amount to the number of 1190.

*Miscellaneous Information.*—In the course of the last 50 years, greater progress has been made in the civilisation of the people than for many centuries during the subsidence of the feudal establishment. While that system continued, every chieftain acted as an independent despot, committing depredations on the territory of his neighbours, as animosity prompted, or as avarice suggested; by these means the people upon contiguous estates were heated by mutual hatred and constant jealousy. While the fruits of labour were precarious, the incitements to industry had no energy: while morals could neither procure the good will of the chief, nor ward off the lawless depredation of a neighbour, they could win no regard. The ordinances of religion, in the primitive times of Presbytery, were no doubt with the greatest punctuality, and some attention to propriety, dispensed: but religion was regarded here as beneath the notice of a race of warriors, and as inconsistent with gallantry and valour; sentiments easily impressed upon people who could not read, and who, through their ignorance and credulity, were the abject slaves of their



tyrannical and selfish masters. The provisions, therefore, by the Government, for improving the powers of mind, have secured the fidelity of the lower orders of the people, by the sanctions both of temporal and of spiritual consideration. When Deistical sentiments were originally published, they at the first bore away the upper and middle ranks of people, who could then alone form any opinion of such sophistical speculations: the knowledge of letters has now no doubt opened a course for the same delusion among the lowest of the people; and while the charms of novelty remain, as hath been the case upon the introduction of every religious sect, it is probable that many will be misled: but as it happened among the upper orders of society, truth will in due time prevail also among them. In the meantime their reasoning powers will become vastly improved, the eye of the mind become in all things more discerning, the craft of vagabond preachers, strolling quacks, and knavish fortune-tellers, will be all equally disposed; and the unequalled blessings of the Christian religion, and of the British Constitution, will be more distinctly apprehended, and more universally revered.] (*Survey of the Province of Moray.*)

Next south and west, is

#### KILTARLATIE PARISH.

The parish of Kiltarlatie stretcheth on the east side of the river Farar, about 14 miles in length. This river riseth out of loch Monar, in the western hills of Ross, passing through Glen-Strath-Farar, the river of Glasater joineth its stream with it at Comer, and having watered the parishes of Kiltarlatie, Kelmorack, and Kirkhill, it falls into the head of the Moray Firth at Lovat, after a course of above 40 miles. This river divides Kiltarlatie from Kilmorack parish to the west, and a range of hills runneth between Kil-

tarlatie, and Urquhart, and Glenmoriston, to the east.

The Church standeth on the bank of the river, a mile above the lower end of the parish, near 3 miles S.S.W. of Kirkhill, 6 miles north-west of Urquhart, and about a furlong E.N.E. of Kelmo-rack Church, that standeth on the opposite bank.

A half mile below the Church is Downie or Beaufort, the seat of the late Lord Lovat, pleasantly situated on a rising ground near the river, and commanding a delightful view, but not improved by art, as it is capable. This was a part of the estate of Sir John Bisset of Lovat, whose second daughter married Sir William Fenton, and brought him this barony of Beaufort or Downie, and their granddaughter heiress of Beaufort married Hugh Fraser. A mile east of Downie, is Belladrum, the seat of a gentleman of the name of Fraser, descended of Fraser of Coulbokie; and of Belladrum, are come the Frasers of Auchnagairn, Fingask, &c. At the confluence of the rivers above mentioned, is the seat of Fraser of Strawie, of whom Fraser of Eskdale, &c., is descended. The rest of this parish is planted by the Clan of Fraser, except Strathglass, that is inhabited by the Chisholms.

Strathglass is a valley watered by the river Glas or Glassater, into which another river, flowing out of Loch Assarig, falleth at Comer, the seat of Roderick Chisholm of Comer or Strath-



glass, chief of that name. I have not learned upon what occasion the Chisholms sold their lands in Teviotdale, and made a purchase in the north, if it was not upon being made constables of the Castle of Urquhart. Sir Robert Lauder was governor of that castle anno 1334 (*Abercrombie*). His daughter and heiress was married to Sir Robert Chisholm, also governor of the said castle (*Hist. Kilr.*), and by her got the lands of Quarrelwood, Kinsterie, Brightmonie, &c., and their daughter married Hugh Rose of Kilravock (*Ibid.*). John Chisholm of Quarrelwood succeeded his brother Sir Robert, and was father of Robert Chisholm, whose daughter, and only child, Morella, married Alexander Sutherland of Duffus, and brought into that family the lands of Quarrelwood, Brightmonie, Kinstarie, &c., and the heir male of Chisholm enjoyeth the paternal estate of Strathglass. The frequent changes of the proprietors of land verify Horace's observation. [Satir. II. Lib. II. Lin. 129.]

Nam propriæ Telluris Herum Natura, neque illum,  
Nec me, nec quemquam statuit. . . .  
Nunc ager *Umbreni* sub nomine, nuper *Ofelli*  
Dictus, erit nulli proprius; sed cedit in usum  
Nunc mihi, nunc alii.

*Smart's Translation.*—For Nature has appointed to be perpetual lord of this earthly property, neither him, nor me, nor any one. Now this field goes under the denomination of *Umbrenus*, lately it was *Ofellus*, and shall be the absolute property of no man; for it will turn to my use one while, and by and by to that of another. (ED.)

## KILTARLITY.

[*Situation, Soil, Climate.*—The parishes which have been hitherto described upon the borders of the Province are bounded by the shore of the Moray Firth, here terminated in the river; which, as hath been suggested before, may have originally formed, and, similar to the rivers Clyde, Forth, and Tay, imparted at the first its own name to this great estuary; and which the silly French epithet, *Beaulieu*, fine place, imposed by the monks both on the monastery and river, has not been able to obliterate. The river still retains the name of Varrar, which it bore in the days of Ptolemy: and the Firth of Varrar, is the denomination, without exception, adopted by every author who has had occasion to mention it in the Latin tongue. Its etymology may be ascertained from what has been suggested relating to the import of the name Garmach, now Garmouth.

From Kirkhill upon the east, the parish of Kiltarlity extends along the southern side of the river Varrar up to the influx of the Glass; upon the southern side of which it is then continued westward to the mountains bordering on Kintail, being in part intersected by the Cannich, in its course from the lake of Asarig to its influx in the Glass; but the estate of Erchless, a part of the fortune of the family of Chisholm, although upon the north side of the river, a little below the junction of the Glass, and almost intersecting the parish of Kilmorac in the synod of Ross, appertains to the parish of Kiltarlity. Towards the south, the parish spreads wide, and rises high, upon the mountains which border with Urquhart. In this quarter it is intersected by four brooks from the southwest and west, between as many broad moory ridges, which gradually ascend for nearly 2 miles, having some cultivated lands almost at their summits, and though now barren, and covered only by stunted heath, yet bearing the tokens of ancient cultivation over their whole extent, when the low grounds were marsh or forest, the haunt of noxious reptiles and ravenous beasts. The lower part of the parish is pretty level. The soil in general is light and thin, but in many places deep and fertile: it bears a considerable number of fruit trees, reckoned as productive as any in the north. The climate is healthful; and



although there is much less rain in the lower part of the country than in the district of Strathglass, where the clouds, mustered by eddying winds upon the brows of high mountains, dash down in heavy showers, but generally spent before they reach the lower districts, yet the people living there are equally healthy with those in the most genial situation.

*State of Property.*—The parish contains 180 square miles, and nearly 92,000 acres, of which about the 30th part, or little more than 3000 acres are arable, under corn and potatoe, with the exception of a small proportion in sown grass and turnip. Besides the natural meadow and mountain pasturage, there are about 1200 acres in plantation, and nearly 5000 under natural wood, oak, aller, birch, and hazel. The valued rent, amounting to £2455 15s. is divided among 7 proprietors.

The family seat of William Chisholm of Chisholm, the chieftain of the clan, is pleasantly situated at Erchless, in a sweeping bend of the river, upon its northern bank, a little below the junction of the Varar with the Glass. A great extent of rich and fertile cornfield lies around this great and elegant messuage, embellished with walks, gardens, groves, and much ground greatly ornamented. Its environs farther down the river are decorated by the picturesque Island of Agaish, an oval nearly 2 miles in circuit. Formed of hard and solid rock, it rises in a gentle slope about 100 feet above the river: covered with a variety of wood, it affords pasturage and shelter for sheep, goats, and a few cows, during the months of summer and harvest. Near its eastern end, the landscape is enlivened by a fall in the river, about 6 feet in height, and a sawmill; 7 saws are wrought by 4 wheels, turning 80 or 90 times in a minute, and cutting a log of 10 feet long, from end to end, in less than four minutes. This work was established in 1765, whereby a revenue of nearly £300 yearly is produced from the forests of the chieftain. The greater part of the timber is felled in the parish of Kilmorac, reduced into logs of 10 or 12 feet. It is drawn by horses, about 2 miles, to the water, to be floated along the three rivers that have been mentioned, for 30 or 40 miles, to the mill; where, after being cut up, it must be still carried by horses below the fall of Kilmorac, about 3 miles farther down than the mill, where it

is again floated in rafts to the firth, and thence transported to Leith and London. The timber makes a yellow deal, and the most durable in Scotland. The vale of Strathglass extends backwards beyond the bounds of the province, into the parish of Kintail: but the valued rent of the Chisholm domains in the parish of Kiltarlity amounts to £697.10s.

Farther down the river is Beaufort, the family seat of Lovat, the Hon. Archibald Fraser. Its name denotes that it was originally a Fortress. On the north it was secured by a steep green bank, rising about 100 feet from the edge of the river: on the land side, it was guarded by two ditches, the nearest about 40, and the other about 300 yards from the walls. Although the traces of fortification may be still explored, the present edifice is a modern elegant palace, embellished by ornamented grounds, shrubbery, extensive plantation, and natural groves. The garden, almost itself a farm, is inclosed by a wall 18 feet in height, lined with brick, extended in various flexures upwards of 800 yards, opening right upon the sun from hour to hour, through the whole course of his diurnal rotation, and generally producing great quantities of the finest fruitage. It is watered, by a clear, copious stream, and enriched by a spacious hot-house, both of which could be easily restored to their pristine efficiency and trim.

In the environs of this splendid mansion, is the grand Fall of Kilmorac. The torrents of many hills, and the streams from many lakes, united at last into the Varrar, sometimes in the Gaelic called the *monks' river*, and the Beaul, in the vicinity of the monastery, roll on a majestic volume, little inferior to the Spey, and rivalling the Clyde or Dee. It approaches this precipice, about 20 feet in height, as if unsuspecting of the Fall. Collected there, and hovering, doubtful, as it were, for a moment over the gulph, as if forced reluctant by the unconscious river behind, it is poured down without resistance, in one unbroken ponderous mass, with a sullen heavy plunge and an unvaried hollow roar. Rising again through the pressure of the deep water, with much less ebullition or violence than might be pre-supposed, it sluggishly occupies the bottom of a precipitous chasm, at such a depth below as to excite apprehension and dizziness on looking down into the shadowy abyss. The northern brow (



the cliff is decorated by a little handsome Tower, built by the minister upon the environs of the glebe of Kilmorac, from whence this great object may be viewed in the most comfortable circumstances, and to the greatest advantage. Having slowly won its passage through the rifted rock, the river winds in silence through the wooded dale, to meet the tide advancing between the contracted shores of the terminating Firth.

Hundreds of salmon at times are seen below, attempting to spring up the Fall, and they bound, when in full vigour, to an amazing height. Unconscious of the unsurmountable steep, they repeat their unavailing efforts; while many swerve so far to either hand, as to fall back upon a ledge of rock almost level with the water upon both its sides. Branches of trees have been arranged along the edges of these shelves, to prevent the fish from regaining the river: and by these simple means eight or twelve have been got in the course of a night. Here also the late Lord Lovat had a kettle placed over a fire, into which some of the fish unfortunately plunged; and, boiled in this manner, were served up to dinner, with the marvellous recommendation to strangers, "that the fish had spontaneously vaulted from the river into the boiling kettle to be dressed:" which was afterwards explained by ocular inspection at the place. At these times, the salmon are frequently caught by a pole armed with three hooks joined back to back, dipped softly for only half a minute in the pool under the fall, and with a sudden jerk pulled back, generally hooks a fish by some part of the body. The valued rent of the estate in this parish is £1090 6s. 8d.

Eastward from Beaufort, under the mountain towards Urquhart, is Belladrum, the family seat of Colonel James Fraser; a handsome modern house: the surrounding fields brought into the highest and most ornamental cultivation. The plantations were begun about the year 1760. Besides the decorations and fruit trees about the house, and a great extent of common fir, they consist of oak, ash, elm, beech, and plane, various kinds of poplars, mountain ash, and service tree, besides larix, New England pine, spruce, and silver fir. The valued rent extends to £100 Scots.

The parish is farther embellished by the family mansions of other proprietors. The valued rent of Kilbockie,

appertaining to William Fraser, Esq., amounts to £379 5s. Baladoun, the property of Captain James Fraser, Esq., is £67. That of Eskadale, to Captain Hugh Fraser, Esq., is £96 13s. 4d. And Kellachy, to — Fraser, is £25. The real rent of the parish amounts to about £2000 sterling. The rent of the arable acre varies from 5s. to £1. The land is cultivated by nearly 200 ploughs. The number of black cattle is estimated at 3000, horses about 720, sheep, 5200, and goats, 420: about 200 of the sheep are an English breed, and highly improved.

*State Ecclesiastical.*—This parish is composed of the ancient Parsonage of Kiltarlity, dedicated to Saint Thalargus, and another parish, Glenconvent, in the southern quarter of the district, a Vicarage which appertained to the Priory of Beaulie; and that they might draw the more tithes, the annexation was made under that establishment.

The Monastery itself, of the same order with that of Pluscarden, derived a considerable proportion of its revenue from tithes within the Province of Moray, upon the margin of which it was placed, within its boundary, though in the county of Inverness. It was established by James Biset, a gentleman of considerable rank in that country: in the year 1230. The only remains of the building are the walls of what had been the place of worship, bearing no trace of turret or steeple, or any ornament of architecture. The floor is almost covered with tombstones of various ages, many nearly coeval with the building itself: the most ancient, from their construction and form, appear to have been the lids of stone coffins; on each is a large cross, surrounded by ancient vignettes, swords, animals, and other symbols, the import of which is not now to be defined. From there being no vestige of letters, it may be inferred, that writing was not in this country understood when these monuments were framed. As many of them must have been carved under the eye, and probably by the hand of the clergy, they must certainly have bore some written inscription, had the knowledge of letters or reading penetrated at that time into this seat of instituted devotion. The earliest inscriptions are dated about 300 years after its foundation: they are in the Saxon character, upon the margin generally of an effigy of the deceased. But those more ancient monu-



ments, in which the cross is so variously exhibited as the principal among the symbols, become an interesting subject of reflection. Before the knowledge of writing, these sculptured symbols must have had important allusions to the much venerated memorials of those regards, which have ever been, at death, the most interesting concern of human life. These monuments, almost themselves obliterated, have proved faithless to the memory of the pious or respectable deceased, which they were intended to perpetuate. They have left undistinguished the characters which they were designed to celebrate, and they only serve to show, that the annals even of the tomb are perishable and transitory as the life of man.

The situation of the Parish Church is denominated *Tom-na-cross*, the hillock of the cross. A little more than half an acre planted with fir, mingled with a few oak, birch, and elm, now almost eclipse the Church: and, after the manner of the most ancient religion in the island, public worship is still performed here in a grove. The stipend is £89 9s. 4d., and 46 bolls 3 firlots and 1 peck of barley. The right of patronage appertains to the honourable Archibald Fraser of Lovat. In the higher and remote parts of the parish, conjoined with a district of that quarter of the parish of Kilmorac, there is a missionary clergyman established by the Royal bounty. He officiates in four separate districts, at considerable distances from each other, with no little difficulty and toil. The salary of the Parochial School is 18 bolls 1 firlot 2 pecks of barley, with the usual fees for teaching arithmetic, writing, and reading English, the highest attainments of the present teacher, and £1 13s. 4d. as the fee, besides the customary emoluments of the office of Session-Clerk. The tenants in the remote district retain by their own funds two young men, in their respective quarters, for teaching their children to read and write. The number of the poor enrolled amounts to 45. The provision for them, raised in the usual manner from the people, with the peculiarity of rents upon some of the pews in the Church, amounts to about £10 yearly. The members of the National Church are 2009; and the Dissenters, of the Church of Rome, are 486.

*Miscellaneous Information.*—There are six Druid temples within a mile of the Church: one of these is within

the present Churchyard. A small farm near the Church is named *Ard druigh naugh*, the high place of the Druids: another place is named *Blar-na-carrachan*, the moor of the circles: and a third, *Ball-na-carrachan*, the town of the circles. About 2 miles east from the Church is situated Castle Spynie; in the Gaelic, *Chastail spuinidh*, the fortress of the spoil. The wall of the building is completely circular, formed of stone without any kind of cement, about 10 feet thick, and 54 yards in circumference; it is placed on a hill almost 800 feet above the plain, so as to be in view of Cnock Farril, a contemporary strong hold, in the parish of Fodderty on the north; and on the west it is in sight of *Dun fhionn*, Fingal's fort, which is situated on a conical hill, accessible only on the eastern side. It is also perfectly circular, about 60 yards in circumference, just visible only above ground, but completely vitrified almost to the depth of 3 feet; evidently, and at first view, the work of art, like Craig-Phadrick in Inverness, no way connected with volcanic productions. An old Record in Dunrobin Castle, it is said, explains this ancient mode of building: bearing, that a stranger had come from the south, into Sutherland, who had discovered an excellent cement for strong buildings, composed of iron ore mixed with other stone, vitrified by the force of fire.] (*Survey of the Province of Moray.*)

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PARISHES OMITTED IN SHAW'S  
*HISTORY OF THE PROVINCE OF MORAY.*

ABERCHIRDER

Was the old name of this parish, which is now called *Marnoch*, being dedicated to S. Marnoch, whose Feast is on the 2nd March, according to King and Camerarius, who place him A.D. 655. According to a Description of the parish, *circa* 1726, from a MS. account of Scottish Bishops, in the library at Slaines, there is a Stone named after him hollowed out a little in the middle, and lying on a hill where he commonly rested, called *S. Marnan's Chair*. There is a Well near the Manse dedicated to him,



and another at no great distance, called *The Lady's Well*. An annual market, on the second Tuesday of March, is called *Marnan Fair*. On the bank of the Deveron is a place called *Chapelton*, where, no doubt, there was at one time a place of worship. Here is S. John's Well and S. John's Ford. Beneath the Church is S. Marnan's Ford.

The Aberchirders of that ilk possessed this parish of old, till Innes of that ilk married the heiress, and so came to have this saint for his patron.

A little below the Bridge of Marnoch stands the old tower-looking mansion of Kinnairdy, on a promontory at the junction of the burn of the same name with the Deveron. Its situation is peculiarly picturesque and commanding. The house is ancient, has been built at various periods, and was, together with much of the property of the parish, held by the Crichtons of Frendraught, in the neighbouring parish of Forgue. Dr. David Gregory, eldest son of David Gregory of Kinnairdie, was Savilian Professor of Astronomy, Oxford. Born in 1661; died in 1710. The *Gregorys* were illustrious in science for ages.

The Donaldsons do now (1726) possess Kinnairdie, descended of an Elgin merchant, in the last age, as the Gordons do Ardmelie here, and the Duffs, Crombie here. The old Castle of Crombie, consisting of three storeys, having the appearance of some strength, stands on the west side of the parish, and is the property of the Earl of Seafield.

Near the centre of the parish is the mansion-house of Auchintoul, once the residence and property of General Alexander Gordon, who entered the service of Russia as a cadet under Peter the Great, and rose to high power and command in his army. He wrote in two volumes the history of his master and friend. He died æt. 82, and was buried in the Churchyard of Marnoch, but no memorial marks the spot.

From *Registrum Episcopatus Moraviensis*.

1. Charter by King William the Lion to the monks of S. Thomas of Arbroath, of all claim to the patronage of the Church of Aberchirder.—A.D. 1203-1214.
2. Charter by Brice, Bishop of Murray, to the monks of Arbroath, of the Church of Aberchirder.—A.D. 1203-1214.

3. Charter by Gillecryst, Earl of Mar, to the monks of Arbroath, of all claim to the patronage of the Church of Aberchirder.—A.D. 1203, A.D. 1214.
4. Charter by Brice, Bishop of Murray, to the monks of Arbroath, of the davach of land belonging to the Church of Aberchirder.—A.D. 1203, A.D. 1222.
5. Charter by the Chapter of the Cathedral Church of the Holy Trinity of Spyny, confirming the afore-said charter of Brice, their Bishop.—A.D. 1214, A.D. 1224.
6. Charter by Andrew, Bishop of Murray, to the monks of Arbroath, of the Church of Inverness and the Church of Aberchirder.—A.D. 1223, A.D. 1242.
7. Ordinance by the Bishop of Murray, regarding the vicarages of the Parish Churches of Inverness and Aberchirder.—A.D. 1249.
8. Bull of Pope Innocent V., confirming the afore-written ordinance.—A.D. 1277.
9. Obligation by Ralph, perpetual vicar of Aberchirder, to pay eight merks yearly to the monastery of S. Thomas of Arbroath.—A.D. 1324.
10. Appeal to the Apostolic See by the Abbot of Arbroath, against a process of the Bishop of Murray, with regard to the fruits of the parish Churches of Inverness and Aberchirder.—A.D. 1371.
11. Answer by the Bishop of Murray to the foregoing Appeal.—A.D. 1371.
12. Sentence of the Official of Murray against Sir John of Corshill, perpetual vicar of Aberchirder.—A.D. 1375.
13. Letter from the Bishop of Murray to the Lord Abbot of Arbroath, demanding payment of four merks from the Abbey's Churches of Aberchirder and Inverness, in name of the subsidy imposed on all benefices within the diocese, for the rebuilding of the Cathedral Church of Elgin.—A.D. 1400.
14. Presentation by the Abbot of Arbroath of Sir Alexander Symson, chaplain, to the vicarage of Aberchirder.—A.D. 1484.
15. Lease by the Postulate confirmed of Arbroath, to James Innes of that ilk, of the great tithes of the Church of Aberchirder.—A.D. 1485.
16. Commission by the Abbot of Arbroath, appointing



- the Prior of Fyvie and two others to be his procurators in an action regarding the marches between the glebe and kirkland of Aberchirder and the barony of Aberchirder.—A.D. 1493.
17. Decree following on a perambulation of the aforesaid marches by an assize sworn on the relics of S. Marnan.—A.D. 1493.
  18. Charter by Symon, the thane of Aberchirder, to Sir Christin, chaplain of the chapel of S. Monan, confessor (1 March), on the bank of the Deveron, and to his successors in that office, of the haugh of Dolbrech, and of four merks of silver yearly from the Mill of Carnoustie.—A.D. 1286, A.D. 1289.
  19. Inquest by the Bishop of Murray, as to the foundation of S. Monan's Chapel, by Symon, the thane of Conveth and Aberchirder.—A.D. 1369.
  20. Charter by King Robert I., confirming the grant which Sybil of Middleton, daughter of Simon, the thane of Aberchirder, lady and heiress of the lands of Carnousie, made to Alexander of Meldrum and Isabel, his wife, of the davach of Wester Carnousie, and the two particles of Culblathgus.—A.D. 1328.
  21. Charter by King David II., to Sir Walter of Leslie, Knight of the thanages of Aberchirder and Kincardine; with a provision that if the heirs of the old thanes should recover possession, Sir Walter should have the accustomed service and rent paid by them in time past to the Crown.—A.D. 1369.
  22. Note of Charters of Aberchirder.—A.D. 1296-1370.
  23. Charter of King David II. to Sir Walter of Lesley and Euphame, his wife, of the lands of the thanage of Aberchirder and the land of Blaresenache.—A.D. 1369.
  24. Charter by King Robert II., confirming a grant by Sir Walter of Lesley, Knight, to Sir William of Lyndesay of the Byres, Knight, of the lands of Aberchirder.—A.D. 1375.
  25. Charter by Alexander of Isla, Lord of the Isles and Earl of Ross (grandson of Sir Walter of Lesley), confirming a grant by Sir John of Lyndesay, Lord of Byres, to Sir Walter of Innes, Knight of the barony of Aberchirder.—A.D. 1439.

26. Notes of Charters of the lands of Aberchirder.—  
A.D. 1426-1484.
27. Notices of the family of Aberchirder of that ilk.—  
A.D. 1296-1446.
28. Notes of Actions before the Lords of Council and  
the Lords Auditors of Causes and Complaints,  
regarding the lands of Aberchirder, Crombie, and  
others, belonging to the laird of Innes.—A.D.  
1479-1493.
29. Decree of the Lords Auditors of Causes and Com-  
plaints, finding a yearly payment of sixty shillings  
due to Merser of Mekilloure, from the lands of  
Netherdale.—A.D. 1471.
30. Notes of Charters of the lands of Netherdale,  
Pettindreich, and others.—A.D. 1329-1406.
31. Decree of the Lords of Council, finding that  
Alexander Glaster of the Glack should pay to  
John of Gordon of Lungar, the value of the lands  
of Crombie, sold but not delivered by Glaster to  
Gordon.—A.D. 1493.
32. Note of a Charter by John, Lord Lyndesay of the  
Byres, to Murdo Glaster of Glack, of the lands of  
Crombie.—A.D. 1489.
33. Declaration by Alexander Glaster of Glack, in pre-  
sence of the Lords Auditors of Causes and Com-  
plaints and of the Lord Chancellor, That he ratified  
the sale made by him in time past to John Gordon  
of Auchluchery, of the lands of Hilton, Cromby,  
Little Warthill, and Harland.—A.D. 1493.
34. In "Ane Rentall of the Freris Predicatoris of Elgin,  
in Anno 1555," occurs:—"Item, the baronie of  
Abircheirdor, x merkis."

#### EPITAPHS IN MARNOCH CHURCHYARD.

The Kirk of *Abirherdour*, now Marnoch, a vicarage of the Cathedral of Moray, was given by King William the Lion to the Abbey of Arbroath. Between 1203-14, Gilchrist, Earl of Mar, gave the same convent the patronage of the Church of Aberchirder, the right to which he had successfully contested with the King and the Bishop of Moray.

According to tradition, S. Marnan, who flourished about the middle of the 7th century, "died very old, and



buried at Aberchirdir." A ford on the Deveron, and a well near the Church, still bear his name. Possibly there was an altar to Our Lady in the Church in old times, as an adjoining spring is named Lady Well.

The present Church, which was removed from the kirk-yard about the beginning of the present century, occupies the site of a stone circle, upon a rising ground to the north-east. Like many parish churches of the period, that of Marnoch presents little worthy of notice, save two material wants—elegance in design and beauty of situation—to the latter of which the old site, on the banks of the Deveron, forms quite a contrast.

Little of the old Kirk of Marnoch remains, and a vault, or place where bodies were deposited, prior to interment, during the resurrection mania, "built by subscription in the year 1832," is now an object of little interest. Some of the tombs, however, are of a superior class. One, in the north-east corner of the enclosure, was, according to local story, executed by a common mason at Crombie. It is of Elgin freestone, dated 1694, and presents, impaled, the arms of Meldrum of Laithers and Duff of Braco, surrounded by an elegant scroll ornament. Within an oval, the half-length life-sized effigy of a bearded ecclesiastic, with cap, frill, and gown, is carved in bold relief—a scroll is in the right hand and a book in the left. Below (upon an oblong oval and convex piece of polished Portsoy marble) is the following inscription:—

*I. Hic jacet reverendus et pius defunctus D. Georgius Meldrum de Crombie, quondam de Glass, præco fidelissimus, qui officio pastorali, dum ferebant tempora, diligenter functus erat. Dives enim fuit non avarus, lucri gratia conscientiam violare noluit, pacifice et sobrie vixit, et hinc migravit anno Dom. 1692, ætatis suæ 76.*

[Here lies the late reverend and pious Mr. George Meldrum of Crombie, sometime of Glass, a faithful preacher, who, while the times permitted, diligently discharged the duties of his pastoral office. Not being avaricious, he was rich, and would not do violence to his conscience for the sake of gain; he lived peaceably and soberly, and departed hence A.D. 1692, in the 76th year of his age.]

Mr. M., who previously "exercised" at Aberdeen, was admitted minister of Glass in 1644, and there, in 1650, one of his elders, in the presence of the session (alluding

to some reported *fama*), declared he had heard a parishioner say that "he sould cause that lowne the minister haue a fowll face!" Mr. M.'s father was laird of Laithers, and his mother was a sister of Adam Duff of Clunybeg. Mr. George Meldrum is said to have had three daughters. Besides Crombie, in Marnoch, Mr. Meldrum held large possessions in the parishes of Turriff and Inverkeithny, &c., in all which he was succeeded by John Ramsay of Melrose, in Gamrie, as heir of entail. Crombie (the old house of which still stands) was previously possessed by Walter Urquhart, who, along with a number of accomplices, was charged with the murder of a brother of Lord Frendraught in 1642.

A flagstone, which forms the entrance to a vault, within the same enclosure as the last-mentioned monumuent, bears:—

II. This is now the burial place of the family of Ardmealie, being a gift from William Duff of Crombie to James Gordon of Ardmealie, his nephew, who died 31 July, 1791.

The Ardmealie Gordons were a branch of those of Craig. From Gordons the property of Ardmealie was bought by Morrison of Auchentoul, father of the present laird of Bognie. It afterwards belonged to Edward Ellice, Esq., M.P., from whom it and Mayen were bought by the trustees of the undermentioned Mr. Gordon of Avochie, who sold Drumlithie in the Mearns to Mr. Miller:—

III. In memory of John Gordon, Esq. of Avochie and Mayen, who died the 27 of Nov., 1857, aged 60 years.

The above-named Mr. Gordon succeeded his father, a W.S. in Edinburgh, in the lands of Avochie. Upon his death in 1857, Avochie and Mayen came, by entail, to the present laird, Adam Hay. Mr. Hay is also a W.S., and the son of a sister of the last-named Mr. Gordon's father. Mr. Hay assumes the name of Hay-Gordon (*v.* Kinore).

An adjoining enclosure contains marble tablets, respectively inscribed as follow:—

IV. Within this vault are deposited the remains of John Innes of Muirfold, Esq. Distinguished for judgment, candour, and integrity, he employed those qualities with cheerful and unremitting application in the service of his friends and his



neighbours. In domestick life, an affectionate husband and generous master; in society, a most agreeable companion. Born 11 March, 1729, he died lamented 3 Oct., 1780. This vault and monument were erected at the request of his disconsolate widow, Helen, daughter of Peter Gordon of Ardmealie, Esq.

Mr. Innes, who was a W.S. in Edinburgh, was descended from the Edingight family, and inherited Muirfold from his father. Leaving no issue, he was succeeded by the daughter of his younger brother, Thomas Innes of Monellie. The latter, also a W.S., died at Edinburgh, 6th Sept., 1779, and was buried in the Greyfriars' Churchyard. Mr. T. Innes' daughter married James, a son of Rose of Gask, near Turriff, who was descended from John of Ballivat, 2nd son of the Hugh Rose of Kilravock who died in 1517. Mr. Rose assumed the name of Rose-Innes. His death is thus recorded at Marnoch upon a marble slab:—

V. To the memory of James Rose-Innes, spouse to Elizabeth-Mary Innes of Netherdale: died 4 Aug., 1814, aged 40. [Their eldest and second sons, Thomas and William, died in infancy respectively in 1799 and 1800.]

The following, from another tablet, shows that Mrs. Rose-Innes survived her husband for about 37 years:—

VI. To the memory of Mrs. Elizabeth-Mary Rose-Innes of Netherdale, who died at Netherdale, 17 Jan., 1851, aged 73.

The property and mansion-house of Netherdale are beautifully situated upon the north bank of the Deveron. Netherdale, originally called Pittendriech, and Mains of Fyvie, were acquired by Mr. Innes from the Earl of Fife in excambion for Muirfold. The present name was given the property, and the house built, by Miss Innes about 1795, when she married Mr. Rose.

VII. To the memory of Georgina Gilzean, spouse of James Rose-Innes, third son of James Rose-Innes and Elizabeth-Mary, his spouse: died 10 Oct., 1836, aged 28. Elizabeth Mary, only daughter of James Rose-Innes and Georgina Gilzean, died aged 14 years and 9 months. James Rose-Innes, spouse of Georgina Gilzean, died 10 June, 1845, aged 44.

James Rose-Innes, W.S., who died in 1845, was 3rd son of the heiress of Netherdale. His wife (who predeceased him in 1836) was a daughter of Mr. Gilzean of Bunachton, Inverness-shire. Their son, T. Gilzean Rose-Innes, now

laird of Netherdale, married Grace, daughter of Mr. Fraser, W.S., Edinburgh. Besides the family already named, the heiress of Netherdale had a daughter (who lives at Netherdale Cottage) and three sons; John, a merchant in London, who died in 1867; Captain Patrick, of Blachrie House, Fyvie (to whose kindness I am obliged for notes regarding his family); and George, of Ardfour, a solicitor in London.

A monument, with the Chalmers' and Innes' coats impaled, initialed M. H. C.: E. I., and dated 1709, contains this inscription:—

VIII. Sub hoc monumento reconduntur exuvie M<sup>ri</sup> Hugonis Chalmers, qui ecclesie hujus Marnochensis A.D. 36 circiter annos pastoris officio fidelissime functus est. Doctus absque vanitate, pius citra ostentationem, gravis sed non morosus, veritatem pacemque constantissime coluit, et tandem, exacto 59 annorum curriculo, ex hac ærumnosa lachrymarum valle in patriam coelestem commigravit quinto die Junii, 1707.

[Under this monument are laid the remains of Mr. Hugh Chalmers, who, for about 36 years, discharged with the greatest fidelity the office of pastor of this church of Marnoch. Learned without vanity, pious without ostentation, grave but not morose, he constantly studied truth and peace, and at length, after a career of 59 years, departed from this sorrowful valley of tears to the heavenly land, 5th June, 1707.]

Upon a flat stone in area of burial ground:—

IX. John Taylor, Mill of Crombie, d. 1721, a. 44; Margt. Johnston, his wf., d. 1748, a. 61—

Here lyes the man and wife, whose actions just,  
Still blooms afresh, tho' now they're turn'd to dust;  
Unlearned were both, yet from God's laws ne'er swerv'd,  
Believ'd in Christ, and him they daily serv'd.  
Be thankful then, since ye're like labourers sent—  
The more's requir'd of them where much is lent;  
In memory of their honest lives and deaths  
William, their son, this stone bequeaths.

Near the above:—

X. Here lyes the body of William Thain, lauful son to Patrick Thain in Euchrie, who died the 22 of March, 1755. . . .

Though now a somewhat uncommon surname, Thain is one of some antiquity in the district; and it is interesting to notice that in connection with the very place named in



this inscription, "Patryk Thane the ald wycar of Inuerkethny," was, in 1493, one of several persons who perambulated the lands of "Yochry et Achbrady," as part of the kirk lands of Aberchirder. Yochry, Eochry, or Echry, is a sort of peninsula or headland of the Deveron, and may have its name from having abounded at one time in yew trees.

Upon a table-shaped stone:—

XI. Sacred to the memory of James Simpson, who departed this life January 30, 1777, aged 62 years; and Isobel Mackie, his wife, who died 26 May, 1787, aged 68 years. This stone is erected by their son, John Simpson, merchant in Quebec.

When we devote our youth to God, &c.

John Simpson died Oct. 30, 1858, aged 83. William Simpson died 3 Nov., 1867, aged 55.

A stone slab in a pillar of the kirkyard gate preserves this record of John Simpson's birth, and of his liberality to the heritors of the parish of Marnoch:—

XII. John Simpson, mercht. in Quebec, was born in the parish of Marnoch A.D. 1747, and at his sole expense erected these churchyard walls, A.D. 1793.

XIII. Jas. Watson, gardener, Ardmeallie, d. 1780, a. 79—

A humorous, sympathising friend,  
Whose bones lies in this dark abode;  
Companion was for high or mean,  
Regarding man and fearing God.

The next two inscriptions are chiefly remarkable for their orthographical peculiarities:—

XIV. Memento moeriy. ARECTed By ROBERT GRAY shoemaker in CrANNA TO THE MEMORY OF HIS son Robert and daughter Jean who departed this life Octr. 30 Nov. 12 1817. In memory of his Mother isabel layen who departed this life 1822 aged 73.

XV. Memento mori. His Fader R. G. MaSSaN IN FOggLON WHO DEPARTed This LIfe The 22 OF April 1782 Egged 30.

Upon a headstone:—

XVI. To the memory of the late George Christie, tinsmith and engraver, Fergustown, who died 10 Feb., 1860, aged 58 Erected by his friends and acquaintances as a token of their admiration of his honest industry, moral worth, intelligence,

and self-acquired mechanical genius. Here rests a prisoner now released.

Upon a marble slab :—

XVII. Sacred to the memory of the Rev. John Edwards, who died on the 1st day of October, 1848, in the 57th year of his age, and the 9th of his ministry. Post nubila cœlum.

Mr. Edwards was the son of a small farmer in the parish of Grange. He was schoolmaster first of Boharm, next of his native parish. The Earl of Fife presented him to the living of Marnoch in 1837. Being vetoed by the people, application was then made by the Presbytery of Strathbogie to the superior ecclesiastical courts for advice how to act in the matter. The Church-courts advised the rejection of the Presentee—on the other hand, the Court of Session ordered his admission to the charge "if found competent." Four members of the Presbytery voted for the former, and seven for the latter course, upon which the General Assembly deposed the majority, and also deprived the Presentee of his license. After Mr. Edwards was vetoed, the patron issued a new presentation in favour of the Rev. David Henry, assistant to the previous minister. Mr. Henry was "the choice of the people," and inducted by a minority of the Presbytery. Being set aside, under the above circumstances, Mr. Henry continued to labour at Aberchirder to a large congregation in the Free Church, and died there in 1870. He was joined (*M'Cosh's Wheat and the Chaff*), by two of the original protesting ministers of Strathbogie! It need scarcely be added that "the Marnoch Case" caused the passing of Lord Aberdeen's Church Act, also that it hastened the Disruption of 1843, and that *the seven*, as well as Mr. Edwards, were reponed to the office of the ministry.—*Jervise's Epitaphs.*

BOTARIE, or S. Martin's Kirk.

BOTRIPHNE, or S. Fumac's Kirk.

CAIRNIE.

DRUMDELGIE, S. Peter's Kirk, or The Burnt Kirk of Strathbogy.

GRANGE or Strathisla.

Minute details of the above five are given in my "Book of the Chronicles of Keith," &c. (Ed.)



DUNBENNAN,

Which is surrounded on three sides by hills, lies nearly two miles to the north of the town of Huntly, in the middle of a plain, through which flows the Deveron. The name *Dunben-an* (? the fort on the hill of the river) possibly points to an early place of strength that may have occupied the top of some of the hills upon the left of the Churchyard, thus commanding the passes to and from the district in all directions.

Part of the south aisle of the old Kirk stands within the burial ground, and upon a slab built into the wall are the words "Georgivs Camerarius," which may refer to the Rev. George Chalmers, who was translated from Botarie (Cairnie) to Huntly, where he died in 1626, aged 54.

On an adjoining slab are curiously carved mortuary emblems—a skull, mattock, and crossed bones—and, what is more remarkable, a representation of the Holy Coat of Treves, flanked by the words MORTVI DIVITI. Round the margin of the stone are these traces of an inscription—

I . . . VNTVR . IN . DNO . HIC . SPOVS . IOHN . ANDERSONE .  
AND . MAISTER . ANDRO . ANDERSONE . VI . . .

II. The initials I A., flanking a shield charged with the Anderson arms (a saltire between three stars, and a crescent in base), are in the middle of a slab which exhibits the following fragmentary inscription:—

. . . DERSONE . AND . GELLIS . BRAND . . . THE . . . S . .  
R . BEARNIS . . . AND . FREN . . . IN . HONOREM . DEI . .  
MEMORIAM . PARENTUM . EREXIT . IACOBUS . ANDERSONE .  
1627 . . .

The above were probably ancestors of George Anderson, gentleman, tenant in Dunbennan, and Jean Stewart, his wife, who were both charged £3 12s. Scots for poll in 1696.

From a table-stone:—

III. To preserve the burying ground, and in pious regard to the memory of James Petrie and Marg. Gordon in Huntly, 1701.  
Geo., their eldest son, and Jean Gordon there, 1727 & 1740  
Colin, youngest son, - - - - - 1758  
and Isab. Alexr. in Auchintender, - - - - - 1756  
John, eldest son to Colin, in Piries Miln, - - - - - 1781  
Jean & Ann, daughter to Colin, - - - - - 1756 & 37

Also are interred here, the remains of Isabella Petrie, who died the 26th day of March, 1843, aged 88 years. This stone was humbly dedicated by James, third son to Colin, in Kirton Miln, 1781—

Whose body too lies here consigned to rest,  
In hope with them to rise among the blest ;  
Sweet be their sleep, and blest their wakening be,  
Reader, pray thou for them who pray for thee.  
R. I. P.

In 1696 the poll of James Petrie, merchant in Rawes of Huntly, his wife Margaret Gordon, and their daughter Janet, is stated at 18s., while that of his son George, who is described as a "messenger," also in Rawes, and his wife Jean Gordon, is set down at £4 12s. 9d. Scots. From one or other of the above-named was descended Bishop Petrie, to whose memory an adjoining table-stone bears this inscription :—

IV. Quem tegit hic cippus, fratrum pietate locatus,  
Arthurum Petrie, lector amice, luge,  
Praesul apud Moravos doctus, pius, atque fidelis,  
Dilecti et merito nominis ille fuit.  
Post vitæ undena et sacri duo lustra laboris  
Ah ! ninium propere, non rediturus abit.  
Parce tamen lachrymis : melioris gaudia vitæ  
Quamque unam coluit præmia pacis habet.

Ob. Apr. 19mo., 1787, aet 56, Pontificatus Rossen. et Moravien 11mo., R.I.P.

*Translation.*—Kind reader, mourn for Arthur Petrie, whom this stone, erected by the piety of his brethren, covers. A learned, pious, and faithful Bishop of Moray, he was deservedly beloved. After a life of 55 years, and 10 years of sacred work, he departed, alas ! too soon, never to return. Yet spare your tears ; he possesses the joys of a better life, and the rewards of the peace which he ever studiously cultivated. He died April 19th, 1787, in the 56th year of his age, and the 11th of his Episcopate of Ross and Moray. May he rest in peace.

Mr. Petrie was consecrated Bishop-Coadjutor of Moray at Dundee in 1776, and in 1777 became sole Bishop of the diocese. He was afterwards Bishop of the united Diocese of Moray, Ross, and Caithness, and died at Meiklefolla, in Aberdeenshire, where he was long the resident clergyman. A headstone to another member of the family bears :—



V. This stone is erected by Lieut.-Col. Al. Petrie, in memory of John Petrie, who died in Pirie's Mill, and of Isabel Cruickshank, his spouse. Also of their daughter Ellen, who died in . . . and Elspet . . . James, their son. . . .

Upon a slab at the Mill of Huntly is the following, which probably refers to a member of the same family:—

VI. 1642 ✠ 1688  
Wm. Petrie, 1798 ✠

From a table-stone:—

VII. This stone is erected by Mrs. Cruickshank, to the memory of her husband, Alexander Cruickshank of Balnoon, who died Janry. 1st, 1768, in the 64th year of his age.

Also from a table-stone:—

VIII. The remains of the Revd. George Ross Monro, late minister of Huntly, are deposited here. He discharged with zeal and kindness the duties of his office for 21 years, and died 10th March, 1822, aged 52. The remains of Mrs. Margaret Reid, his first wife, are also here interred. She died 1804.

Their youngest daughter was the first wife of J. D. Milne, Esq. of Melgum, advocate, Aberdeen.

IX. Sacred to the memory of Mrs. Mary Stark, a sincere and pious Christian. She was widow of the Rev. James Monro, Minister of Cromarty. After his death she resided in Huntly, where her eldest son was Minister, and died there on the 6th April, 1822, aged 82 years. Also her daughter, Mrs. Jean Hall, who died 8th March, 1839, aged 73. Mary Monro, who died 19th February, 1863.

The next refers to Mr. Monro's immediate successor:—

X. In affectionate remembrance of the Rev. James Walker, Minister of Huntly for forty-eight years. Ordained 27th March, 1823, died 27th August, 1875, aged 76. Erected by Friends and Sabbath School Scholars.

He was tutor in the family of Sir James Boswell of Auchinleck, baronet, at the time he received the presentation to the Church of Huntly; and was a witness at the trial of Mr. Stewart of Dunearn for killing Sir Alex. Boswell in a duel at Balbarton, near Auchtentool, in Fife, 26th March, 1822.

From a granite slab built into the south wall of the aisle :—

XI. In memory of the Reverend James Walker, Episcopal clergyman in Huntly, who died on the 6th day of April, 1843, in the 81st year of his age and 60th of his ministry. Also of Harriet Christian Walker, his daughter, who died at Huntly, 3rd Feb., 1860, aged 46. Also of Jean Pantou, wife of the Rev. James Walker, who died 19th June, 1863.

[Their daughter Mary lies at Dipple.]

Among other marriages which Mr. Walker solemnized when at Huntly was that of Col. Wm. Wemyss, son of Col. Wemyss of Wemyss Castle, and the Hon. Isabella, daughter of the Earl of Errol. It took place at Huntly Lodge 14th April, 1821, in presence of the Marquis of Huntly and his Chamberlain, Edward Wagstaff. This lady's youngest sister was afterwards married to the late Capt. Wemyss, R.N., M.P., &c.

Upon a plain headstone :—

XII. In memory of Walter Vass, late Supervisor of Excise at Huntly, who died 28th May, 1814, aged 43 years. 1816. Erected by Officers of Excise in Elgin Collection.

From a headstone :—

XIII. In memory of Marion Walker Hill, who died 19th Janry., 1843, aged 23. This stone, with the cordial acquiescence of her mourning relatives, is erected by her young friends of the congregation under the pastoral care of her father, as a testimony of their respect. May they all follow her in so far as she followed Christ. She is not dead, but sleepeth. Here also are deposited the ashes of four of his children—Marion's twin sister, a younger sister, and two brothers, all of whom died in infancy.

They died, for Adam sinned,

They live, for Jesus died.

From a table-stone :—

XIV. This is the Buriall-ground of George Barclay, merchant, and one of the first fewers of Huntly, who died in the 63rd year of age, and in the yer 1736; and of Margaret Guthrie, his wife, who died in the yer 1749, and in the 83d of age, who both lived and died with ane honest and unblemished chariktor. Mary Bremner, late spouse of Robert Barclay, in Newbigging, died 1783, aged 63; her husband died 1790, aged 36.



George Barclay, merchant in Rawes of Huntly, and his wife, Isobell Guthrie, their stock being above 100 merks and under 500, paid 18s. of poll in 1696.

A table-shaped stone bears :—

XV. This stone is erected to the memory of the Rev. George Cowie, late Minister of the Gospel at Huntly, who departed this life on the fourth of April, 1806, in the fifty-seventh year of his age and twenty-seventh of his ministry. Likewise Isobell Clark, his spouse, who died 27th July, 1816, aged 60 years.

Mr. C., originally an Anti-Burgher, was the first minister of the Independent Church in Huntly, and was possibly one of the earliest encouragers of Revival meetings, for which, long after, under the late Duchess of Gordon's patronage, Huntly became somewhat famous. The writer of the New Statistical Account (p. 1042) says of Mr. C. that "to this day, his aphoristic sayings are often quoted, and his memory is affectionately cherished by many of the old people in the parish."

From a slab in the old wall :—

XVI. In memory of Margaret Wagstaff, aged 34 years, who died September 21st, 1810—deeply lamented by all who knew her, the surest testimony of her worth and amiable qualities.

This is a member of a family that were long in the service of the Dukes of Gordon. They came from England, and the name, which is of some antiquity, appears to have been assumed from the office of *Wakestaff*, or City Watchman.

Upon an obelisk :—

XVII. In memory of the Rev. James Millar, lately Minister of the United Presbyterian Congregation, Huntly, who died at Whitehill, Grange, 16th October, 1863, in the 87th year of his age, and 49th of his ministry. In memory also of his spouse, Helen Grant Primrose, who died 22nd July, 1848, aged 52 years. For Christ they lived, and in the sure hope of being with Christ they fell asleep. Erected by their family.

One head and four table-stones, within an enclosure, bear inscriptions (here abridged) to the memory of—

[1.]

XVIII. William Forsyth, merchant in Huntly, died 1759, aged 72. His wife, Elspet Gerard, died 1774, aged 80.

[2.]

XIX. Alexander Forsyth, merchant in Huntly, died 1793, aged 63. His spouse, Margaret Dunbar, died 1825, aged 66. [The deaths of three of their children, Osbert, George, and Margaret, are also recorded.]

[3.]

XX. William Forsyth, Esq., died 1810, aged 89, and Jane Phyn, his wife, died 1811, aged 79. Their second son, William, died 1793, aged 37 ; eighth son, Robert, Major, 60th Regt., died 1825, aged 59 ; fifth son, Thomas, of Montreal, died at Huntly, 1832, aged 72 ; third son, Alexander, died at Huntly, 1843, aged 85. Their only daughter, Margaret, died 1863, aged 86.

[4.]

XXI. Osbert Forsyth, late of Cornhill, London, died at Huntly in 1833, aged 63. Isabella Reid, his spouse, died 1863, aged 72.

[5.]

XXII. The Rev. Morris Forsyth, Minister of the Gospel at Mortlach, died at Huntly, 1838, in the 67th year of his age, and the 33d year of his ministry. Mrs. Isabella Donaldson, his relict, died 1852.

Mr. Forsyth, whose wife was a daughter of Mr. James Donaldson of Kinairdy in Marnoch, has also a tombstone in Mortlach.

Upon a table-stone enclosed :—

XXIII. In memory of Alexander Scott, manufacturer in Huntly, who died 24th April, 1807, aged 73 ; also of his daughter, Margaret, aged 4, and Walter, his son, who died in infancy. Also of Elizabeth Burgie, wife of the said Alexander Scott, who died Dec., 1813, aged 83. And also of their son, Alexander Scott of Craibstone, who died the 10th of June, 1833, aged 66 ; and of Catharine, his wife, eldest daughter of John Forbes of Boyndlie, who died at Craibstone the 21st of Jan., A.D., 1855, aged 70. 2 Tim. i. 18.

Mr. Scott, who made money in India as a medical practitioner, founded in the University of Aberdeen two theological bursaries of the yearly values of £20 and £16 10s. respectively, and also left the lands of Craibstone, &c., near that city, for the erection and endowment of an Hospital at Huntly, as is thus recorded upon a slab of



Peterhead granite, built into the entrance porch of the building:—

A Home for the Aged, founded and endowed by Alexander Scott, a native of the parish of Huntly, who died at Craibstone 10th June, 1833, and whose body rests in the churchyard of Dunbennan, in hopes of a blessed resurrection.

The rental of Craibstone is from £800 to £1000 a-year. The centre and east wing of the Hospital were completed in 1855, and the institution was opened on the 1st of August in that year. The west wing was added in 1861. On the 28th of September, 1865, the centre and east wing were entirely destroyed by fire, but were restored in 1869, when some additions were made to the buildings.

From a marble, enclosed:—

XXIV. Erected by William Macgrigor, Huntly, as a tribute of respect to the memory of his beloved spouse, Margaret Cowie, who died 14th June, 1840, aged 54 years. Sacred also to the memory of the above William Macgrigor, who died 8th December, 1848, aged 67 years. And of their only son, Alexander Macgrigor, M.D., Deputy-Inspector-General of Hospitals, who died of cholera at Scutari, in Turkey, on the 16th of May, 1855, aged 43 years.

Upon a slab of white marble, built into a granite monument:—

XXV. In memory of Alexander Donald, A.M., for 17 years schoolmaster at Huntly. A man whose classical knowledge was equalled by few, whose benevolence of heart embraced all mankind, and whose exertions in the cause of distress were never applied for in vain. This stone is erected by his scholars as a just tribute of respect for his eminent abilities, of gratitude for his useful instructions, and of esteem for his disinterested benevolence and general philanthropy. He died 24th April, 1816, aged 41.

Abridged:—

XXVI. John Jesseman, farmer, Westerton of Botriphnie, died in 1828, aged 85. His son, "Alexander, an officer in the British army, was wounded at Talavera, in Spain, in 1809, and died soon after."

The next two inscriptions are from tablestones:—

[1.]

XXVII. Mary Gray, relict of Andrew Gray of Stock-

strouther, died 16th June, 1826, aged 68. Erected by her son, Andrew Gray of London.

[2.]

XXVIII. Here lies, reserved for the resurrection of the just, the body of Margaret Allen, spouse of James Allan, Esq. from Manchester. She died Decr. 26, 1821, aged 58, and was esteemed by many as a Mother in Israel, and an honour to women. Them that sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

From a box-shaped stone :—

XXIX. In memory of John Ramsay, Esq., late surgeon in the Staff, who died at Huntly, 15 Feb., 1830, aged 60.

Elizabeth, his wife, died at Southampton, from injuries received by a coach accident, 29th Aug., 1843, aged 62, and is interred in the private burial-ground of All Saints, Southampton.

From a headstone :—

XXX. Captain John Wilson, 42d Royal Highlanders, in memory of his Brothers :—John, died 1822, aged 16 ; James, colour-sergeant, 92d Highlanders, died at Dominica, W.I., 1841, aged 38 ; Donald, quarter-master-sergeant, 42d Royal Highlanders, died at Malta, 1846, aged 36. His sister, Isabella, wife of Major John Drysdale, 42nd Royal Highlanders, died at Southampton 1856, aged 44. His father, James Wilson, died at Aberdeen, 1861, aged 80. A nephew, William, died at Glasgow, 1852, aged 21 ; another nephew, Charles Forbes, second officer in the Peninsular and Oriental Company's service, died at London, 1861, aged 27.

Tirriesoul, or Tilliesoul, was the old name of the village which is now represented by the town of Huntly ; and on the 3rd July, 1545, Earl George had a charter under the Great Seal, by which the "Villa de Tirriesoul" was erected into a Burgh of Barony (*Spalding's Troubles*, i. 49).

Two well-known hillocks, called "The Torries," in or near which ancient graves and calcined stones have been found, lie to the north of the town. Possibly the old name of Huntly had been assumed from these and from the shielings of which the village was originally composed, at least the Gaelic words, *Torrie-soul*, *saul*, or *toul*, are capable of such a rendering, and no doubt had been accurately descriptive of the physical aspect of the place in early times.



The *Bowmen's Hillock* stands near "The Torries," and there, possibly, the vassals of the district met in old time to practice archery. But tradition accounts for the name in another way, averring that it arose from the fact that in a time of scarcity one of the Earls of Huntly ordered meal to be sent there for distribution in quantities of a *bow* or boll to each family of the surname of Gordon. It is further told that, with the view of participating in the Earl's bounty, many others assumed the name, and they and their descendants were afterwards known as "the bow o' meal Gordons." A "Bowhouse" was erected near the kirk of Dunbennan, for the reception of the poor's "mortified" meal, as it was called; and "a bow o' meal" is still annually distributed by the Duke of Richmond and Gordon to poor females of the parish, who are known as "Bow-women."

The houses in Huntly, as well as at Noth, were at one time called "The Rawes," from their being built in rows or lines, and the circumstance of their being under the superiority of the Earl of Huntly gave rise to the proverb, "Ne'er misca' a Gordon in the Rawes o' Strathbogie"—an advice still worthy of attention, but even more important in the days when the exercise of the rights attached to heritable jurisdictions was still in full vigour. In "The Rawes" possibly lived "Mr. John Fraser, husband to Anne Johnston, in Huntly," who "under cloud of Night (did so) most inhumanly and Barbarously Beat and Bruise" his wife, that the good women of Huntly petitioned the baron bailie (John Gordon of Avochie) to grant "a toleration to the Stang." "Otherways," say the petitioners, "upon the least disobligment given, we must expect to fall Victims to our husbands displeasure, from which Libera nos Domine!" On the day after the petition was presented (10th Jan., 1734) four men were complained against by Fraser, and each fined £20 Scots, for having, "in the face of the sun, about three in the afternoon, tore his clothes and abus'd his person, by carrying him in a publick manner through the town of Huntly upon a tree!"

Huntly, in the centre of which is a fine market square, was originally a well-planned town, its chief defect being, as in most old places, the narrowness of its streets. Since the introduction of the railway, the trade of Huntly has

greatly increased in extent and importance, and the town is now fairly entitled to the appellation of the "Capital of Strathbogie." It contains some good shops—wholesale and retail—a handsome public hall and a lecture-room, which were built out of a bequest by the late Mr. Stewart, and several branch banks.

Besides the Parish Church, there are Free, Episcopal (Christ Church), and Roman Catholic (St. Margaret's) places of worship, as well as U.P. and Congregational Churches.

#### KINNOIR.

S. Mungo's hill, with S. Mungo's well on its west side, is in the vicinity of the old Kirkyard, the site of which, as the name implies, is upon the top of a rising ground. It is situated upon the south bank of the Deveron, and although the monuments are few, some of the inscriptions possess considerable local interest.

From a table-stone :—

I. Here lies the Benevolent Mrs. Gordon of Avochie, daughter of Peter Gordon of Ardmealie, who died the 5th of April 1785, and also her worthy daughter, Mrs. Hay, who died the 26th May, 1763. This stone is erected to their memory, from filial affection, by her daughter, Catherine Gordon.

The ancestor of the Gordons of Ardmeallie was George of Mill of Noth, youngest son of Patrick Gordon of Craig, who fell at Flodden in 1513 (Harperfield's *Gordon Pedigree Tables*). Ardmeallie was bought from one of the Gordons by the late Mr. Morrison of Auchintoul, and was repurchased by the trustees of Mr. John Gordon of Avochie and Mayne, who died in 1857. He and a sister were children of the previous laird, but with commendable honour, and a desire to support the legitimate issue and the dignity of his father's house, he left the landed estate to a descendant of the above-named Mrs. Hay, while his sister, who died in 1875, aged 79, left her fortune to "fremit folk" or strangers who had been attentive to her in her later years.

Mrs. Hay's descendants, who were afterwards called Hay-Gordon, had their burial-place in St. Cuthbert's churchyard, Edinburgh, and the following inscription



from a mural tablet there appears to relate to the grandson and his wife:—

II. To the memory of Adam Hay, Esquire, late Major in the Thirty-fifth Regiment of Foot, who died at Edinburgh upon the 25th day of May, 1836, aged sixty-nine years. Also of Mary Watson, his spouse, who died 20th March, 1844, aged 74.

A marble Cross, within the same enclosure, presents the subjoined inscription (followed by a quotation in Greek characters from Heb. ii. 10) to the memory of their son who was a Writer to the Signet, and to whom the properties of Avochie and Mayne were left by Mr. John Gordon:—

III. I.M. Adam Hay Gordon of Avochie, Nat. 1803, ob. 1872, and of Mary, his infant daughter, 1853.

We have not ascertained when the Gordons first came to Avochie, nor to what branch of the Gordon family they belonged. The earliest mention of them is in Dempster's *Eccl. History*, page 673, in which the author says that his family (of Muireisk) was ruined chiefly through the misconduct of his eldest brother, James, who, infuriated by the discovery of the existence of an improper intimacy between his wife, a daughter of Avochie, and her father-in-law, made an attempt on the old man's life, in which he was aided by a band of Gordons, two of whom were killed in the course of the desperate affray that ensued. As Dempster died in 1625, this must have occurred sometime about the year 1600; but it is not until January 29, 1659, when John was served heir to his father, that we have found the family designed of Avochie. This laird married a daughter of Sir John Leslie of Wardes, who outlived her husband, and afterwards married Gordon of Newton.

The family appears to have been in a pretty good position at this time, for, on 25th Jan., 1687, Henry Gordon was served heir to his father not only in Avochie, but also in rather extensive possessions in the parishes of Oyne, Rayne, and Tullynessle. Henry Gordon of Avochie and two sisters, Anna and Elizabeth, the one 15 and the other 12 years of age, were alive in 1696, and appear to have lived with "Mr. William Gordon, gentleman, tenant, and his spouse," at Mill of Avochie.

The next mention of the family occurs in 1734, when John Gordon of Avochie sat at Huntly as bailie of the

Regality Court. It was possibly this laird that was exempted from the Act of Indemnity, and fined £500 for being out in the '45. It is said that his wife, to whom the tombstone at Kinnoir was erected, was a person of very frugal habits, and thereby contributed much to the payment of the fine, and to the keeping of the property in the family. Their son John, who was known by the sobriquet of "Chaw of Tobacco," is said to have acquired considerable wealth by the joint occupations of an advocate and a wine merchant. He bought the property of Drumlithie, in Kincardineshire, which he left, along with Avochie, as before noticed, and the former having been sold by his son, it was with part of the proceeds of the sale that his sister was able to benefit her friends.

The present house of Avochie, which is beautifully situated in the midst of a cluster of trees, upon the south bank of the Deveron, was built by the son of "the rebel laird;" and the old house, of which two ruined gables, having between them a thatched cottage, now alone remain, forms a striking object upon the summit of an adjacent rising ground. It appears to have been a house of two stories with attics, and to have been built in a superior style, probably in the time of the laird of 1696.

IV. . . . rew Murray, sometime in Cortlyburn, who departed this life the 7th of December, 1713, aged LX8 yea . . . A.M. : I : M.

"Andrew Murray, principall tennent in Affleck," his wife and sons, Alexander and John, were charged poll in 1696. There were then a number of Murrays in this district, one of whom, William, is described as a notary public, and tenant in the Daach of Auchinboe; but the names of none of their children correspond with those in an inscription upon an adjoining stone, which bears that William and Andrew Murray died respectively in 1751 and 1764, aged 73 and 76. The name of Cortlyburn is not in the Poll Book, but the place itself lies in the south-east corner of Kinnoir, about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles from the old kirkyard.

Possibly the best known of the Murrays connected with the district was George, who died at Edinburgh in 1868. He was the son of a crofter, by his wife, Margaret Hay and was born at Boghead of Kinnoir. His father, w



entered the army as a private soldier, died in Jamaica, upon which George and his mother went to Canada, but soon returned to Scotland. When a young man of from twenty to thirty years of age, he became a student at Marischal College, Aberdeen, and also taught a school in the parish of Inverkeithny. While there, he published a volume of poetry ("Islaford, and other Poems, Edinburgh, 1845"), which contains several pieces of local interest. On leaving the district he changed his name to *Manson*, and ultimately succeeded to the editorship of the *Daily Review*, an office which he held until his death in 1868.

V. Here lie the bodies of the Rev. Mr. Robert Innes, minister of Huntly, who died 13th March, 1800, in the 89th year of his age and 58th of his ministry. Also his spouse, Elizabeth Gordon, who died 12th December, 1777, aged 50 years. Also their son, Robert, who died 13th November, 1757, aged 6 years. This monument is erected by Lieut. John Innes of the Huntly Volunteers in memory of his Parents and Brother. Also lie here the remains of the above Lieutenant John Innes, who died the 4th day of December, 1839, aged 90 years.

Lieutenant Innes, who was a licentiate of the Church before he entered the army, saw much active service in the field, and was present at the siege of Gibraltar.

VI. In memory of the Rev. William Mitchell, vicar of Baydon, County of Wilts, son to Alexander Mitchell and Margaret Anderson, late in Hillockhead of Kinnore, who died at M'Duff, Decr. 8, 1820, aged 76 years.

VII. In memory of Morrice Smith, who died 4th Jany., 1853, aged 34 years. Erected by his Friends and Fellow-Servants to commemorate the benefits which, as the great improver of ploughing, he conferred on Aberdeenshire.

VIII. This stone is erected by James Mitchell, in Greenfold, in memory of his son, Alexr. Mitchell, who spent 11 years and 10 months in Jamaica, he departed this life Decr. 24, 1785, aged 35 years.

Here lies also the body of the foresaid James Mitchell, Farmer, in Greenfold, who departed this life March 8, 1794, aged 84 years.—Also are here interred the remains of his spouse, Jannet Murray, who died 9th Oct., 1804, aged 87 years.—Also their daughter, Ann Mitchell, who died July 26th, 1807, aged 68 years. Also their daughter Isobel, spouse to George Cruickshank, sometime farmer in Earnhill, she departed this life 19th Oct., 1815, aged 75 years. *Memento mori.*

## IX.

Elspat Strachan,  
Died 14 Sep., 1797, aged 68 years.

This stone is laid by her only son, John Smith, in Jamaica, as the last mark of affection for a loving mother, who was a virtuous Christian, and lived a blameless life.

X. Under this stone is deposited the body of Mrs. Elizabeth Scorgie, widow of the late Rev. John Touch, Minr. of Mortlich. To a cultivated understanding she joined great sensibility of temper, unusual cheerfulness of disposition, and boundless benevolence of heart. Her friends who experienced her hospitality, and the poor who were warmed by her bounty, can tell the rest. She died June 1st, 1799, aged 79 years.

Nigh to the Bridge of Deveron stand the remains of *Huntly Castle*, built about 1609. One part only of the original plan seems to have been completed. On the north front are the arms of the family, cut in stone, with the names of the builders:—GEORGE GORDOUN, FIRST MARQUIS OF HUNTLY, AND HENRIETTE STEVART, MARQUISSE OF HUNTLY, 1602. A spacious turnpike stair leads to what has been a very grand hall. Its length is about 43 feet, its breadth 29, and its height 16. There is another grand apartment immediately over this, 37 feet in length and 29 in breadth. The chimneys of both are highly ornamented with curious sculptures of various figures, still in tolerable preservation. The thickness of the walls admits of several small closets. The ceilings of the rooms are curiously ornamented in small divisions with lines of doggerel poetry underneath, describing the subject of the piece. In the chamber which was appointed for a chapel, the parables, &c., are represented in the same style. On the avenue leading to the *Castle of Strathbogie* are two large square towers which had defended the gateway. The hewn stones of the windows and corners have been taken out, and applied to ignoble purposes.

It was in the time of the 3rd Earl of Huntly, who possibly had more territory added to his already extensive domains than any of his predecessors or successors, that James V. (*Reg. Priory of Isle of May*), while on his pilgrimage to the shrine of St. Duthoc at Tain, 5th October, 1504, passed a night in the house of Strathbogie. On which occasion he received from the Treasurer a pay



of 14 pounds "to play at the cartes." When the King revisited Strathbogie in the following year (Oct. 19), he was entertained with music, and gave 14s. Scots "to the menstrels and the More to ther hors met." Alexander Law, falconer, also received 7s. for going "to Finlater for ane hawk;" and when at Inverurie, where he "baytit," his Majesty gave "ane wife," who entertained him in some way or other, 14s. 2d., likewise 2s. in alms to "pur folkis ther."

The fifth Earl of Huntly, who died at Strathbogie in 1576, was succeeded by his son, who had his house of Strathbogie destroyed after the battle of Glenlivet.

Out of respect for the memory of her husband, Elizabeth, the last Duchess of Gordon, who was a daughter of Brodie of Arnhall, near Brechin, erected the handsome buildings, used as public schools, which form the entrance to Huntly Lodge. They are adorned with marble busts of the Duke and Duchess, and a stone-pannel in front is thus inscribed:—

GORDON SCHOOLS  
ERECTED TO THE MEMORY OF GEORGE,  
FIFTH DUKE OF GORDON,  
BY HIS WIDOW.

The Duchess, who died on 31st January, 1864, was predeceased by her nephew, the Duke of Richmond, on 21st October, 1860, and his Grace being a popular landlord, there was erected to his memory in the Market Square of Huntly a statue of freestone, by the late Alexr. Brodie of Aberdeen, which is thus inscribed:—

Erected as a Memorial of CHARLES GORDON-LENNOX, fifth Duke of Richmond, by his Tenantry of the Lordship of Huntly, 1862.

His Grace was succeeded as Duke of Richmond by his son, Charles Henry Gordon-Lennox, who has filled many important offices in Her Majesty's Government, and was created, in 1876, Duke of Richmond and Gordon.

Beside the Duke's monument lies a rough whinstone boulder, which exhibits markings resembling a large horse shoe, and similar to those upon the Bruceton Stone, near Alyth. (See *Jervise's Epitaphs*.)

## GLASS

*I.e.*, the *Green* parish, so called from being surrounded with green hills, is dedicated to St. Andrew; and here St. Andrew's Fair is held on the third Tuesday in July, hard by a little village where the Church standeth in the middle of the parish. This parish was made up of part of St. Peter's of Drumdelgie or Peterkirk, commonly called the Burnt Kirk, and St. Wolock's of the ancient parish of Dummeth. The lands of Dummeath were gifted by King Malcolm II. to Wallach Kirk.

In the west end of the parish stands the House of Beldorney, upon a rising ground, on the north bank of the River Deveron, belonging to Gordon of Beldorney, southward from the Church two miles. Below this house, close by the river side, on a haugh, are two natural baths, called St. Wallach's Baths, much frequented on the first day of May by sick folk, especially children, lying betwixt two rocks (where St. Wollock lived), about six or seven paces in length, with two of breadth, and four or five feet in depth, always full of water, even in the greatest drouth. About a quarter of a mile down the river, close by the water side, there is a ruinous kirk, called Wallach Kirk. Some part of the walls do remain, with the Font. There is a large Churchyard about it, where many of the dead are interred there to this day; with a glebe yet belonging to the minister of the parish, with some marks of the priest's house yet remaining. About a hundred paces beneath the Kirk is St. Wallach's Well, much frequented by sick folk. (See *Description of the Parish of Glass*, 1724, in Macfarlane's *Geographical Collection for Scotland*, MSS. Bibl. Adv.—*Spalding Club*.)

Two annexations have been made to the original parish of Glass. On the removal of the Bishop from Mortlach in the 12th century a large district of that extensive parish was annexed to Glass and Cabrach. The other annexation, consisting of several of the best farms in the east end of the parish, taken from Drumdelgy or Peterkirk, now annexed to Cairnie or Botary, was made about the end of the 17th century, so that the original parish must have been very small. The lands of Edinglassie appear to have been separated from the parish of Mortlach and annexed to that of Glass in 1650. (*Presbytery*



*Book of Strathbogie*.) Stephen, parson of Glas, is one of the clergy of the diocese of Murray who adhibit their consent to the charter of Bp. Bricius, erecting eight prebends in the Cathedral Church of the Holy Trinity at Spyny, between 1208 and 1214. (*Registrum Episcopatus Moraviensis*.)

To the north-east, by the river side, stands the ruinous House of Edinglassie (a mile below Beldorney, and south-west from the Church of Glass the like distance) once belonging to the late Sir George Gordon of Edinglassie, father to the present Carnousie, but is now in the possession of Duff of Braco. About a quarter of a mile below this house runs a considerable burn, which runs into Deveron, over which the said Sir George built a stone bridge of one arch, upon which is engraven his name and arms.

Near to this bridge stands a mill with a little village and tolbooth, which he designed for a burgh of barony. At the said village is held a yearly market on the Tuesday before Christmas, called St. Wallach Fair.

On the south of the Deveron, with fifty paces thereto, stands the House of Aswanly, south-east from the Church half a mile, in a pleasant situation, whereby there runs a small burn, east the house, called the Hallburn, which falls into Deveron. There are some fine old trees of ash and plane about the old mansion-houses of Aswanly and Beldorney, and the whole scenery about the latter is grand and picturesque.

There are two things for which the House of Aswanly is chiefly famous, and these are, *primo*, a daughter thereof was married to the House of Huntly, who bore two sons, commonly called *Jock* and *Tam*. Jock had three sons—Buckie, Pitlurg, and Lismore—whose posterity possess their heritages and possessions to this day, but of doubtful precedency, for the pedigree is uncertain. After the death of the mother of Jock and Tam, Huntly married the King's only sister (and settled the estate and honours upon her issue, disinheriting the children of the first marriage), who bore an only daughter, married to one of the House of Winton, by whom came the Seton-Gordons. The second thing is the way and manner in which the ancestors of the present Aswanly came to the inheritance, which was thus:—There was one Hutcheon Calder in

company with Huntly when he went to the Battle of Brechin against the Earl of Crawford, who, by his cunning and courage, got into the camp of Earl Beardy, and likewise into his tent, who, after supper, brought away the said Earl's drinking-cup (which cup Calder of Aswanly keeps to this day), being a large silver cup, overlaid with gold, holding a Scots pint and two gills, of fine engraven and carved work, and with a cape of which there is an inscription, which is now lost; wherewith returning to the camp in the silence of the night he gave account to Huntly of the situation of Earl Beardy's camp and number of his forces; and, as a testimony of his being there, produced the said cup, upon which intelligence they attacked Crawford in the morning and defeated his forces; for which service the said Hutcheon Calder obtained the lands of Aswanly, whose posterity possess it to this day. (See *A Concise History of the Ancient and Illustrious House of Gordon*, by C. A. Gordon, pp. 42-44. Aberdeen, 1754.)

In the east end of the parish, and north side of the Deveron, east from the Church a mile, lies the ruinous House of Cairnborrow, formerly belonging to the Gordons of Cairnborrow.

The day before the Battle of Glenlivet, 1594, the Marquis of Huntly came to Cairnborrow and applied to his lady, who was supposed to rule the roost, for her assistance. She said she had got short warning, but that her old man, with his eight sons, with a jackman and a footman to each, should attend him immediately. Huntly thanked her, and after some more conversation with her, desired Cairnborrow, who had spoken never a word, to stay at home, telling him that, at his advanced years, it was not proper to take him along, especially as he had so many of his sons. The old man heard him out, and, shrugging up his shoulders, said, "Na, na, my Lord, I'll bleed the whelps mysell, they'll bite the better." This was at once the reply of a sportsman and a soldier; and the whole family went to the Battle, with the laird at their head. They defeated Argyle and returned all safe to Cairnborrow. The writer has seen a manuscript in which the names of the father, mother, and eight sons are all mentioned:—John Gordon of Cairborne married Bessie Gordon, daughter to the Laird of Buckie, with



whom he begat eight sons and three daughters. His sons were—1. John, Laird of Cairborne, afterwards of Edin-glassie; 2. George Gordon of Sorbach; 3. James Gordon of Fermaghtie; 4. William, who coft Cairnborrow; 5. Mr. Arthur Gordon; 6. Thomas Gordon of Aitloch; 7. Robert Gordon of Gollachie; 8. Patrick Gordon of Craigston, in Sutherland. All these with their father, and nine jack-men and as many footmen, went to Glenlivet Battle. (*Stat. Acc. of Scotland*, 1797.)

#### GARTLY OR GRANTULY

Signifies *the field among the knolls*, and is dedicated to St. Andrew. Here is Andersmas Fair, and St. Andrew's Well, one mile from the Church.

The ashes of the Viscount of Aboyne and of John Gordon, Laird of Rothiemay, who were burned in the old tower of the House of Frendraught in 1630, were buried in a vault in the Church of Gartly, which is still to be seen.

The sites of Chapels are still pointed out in the Braes, namely, at Heathery Hillock, Brawlinknowes, Moorall House, Kirkney, and St. Finnan's Chapel and Well at Tillythrowie. The vestiges of some of these, and of the burial-grounds attached, are still visible.

The parish of Gartly, though locally in Aberdeenshire, is nevertheless, legally, partly in that county and partly in the county of Banff. It is divided nearly in the centre by the Water of Bogie into what is called the Barony and the Braes—the former is in the county of Banff, the latter in the county of Aberdeen.

The Church of Gartly was one of the mensal churches of the Bishop of Murray.

The only antiquity in the parish is an old ruin, called the Place of Gartly. (*Stat. Acc. of Scotland*, 1794.) *Gartly Castle* is placed on a small mount, and surrounded with a deep ditch. It is a square tower; one end of it is fallen down, and shows a section of strong vaulted rooms.

A stone coffin was lately found on the farm of Coldrain. There was also lately found on the farm of Faich-hill an urn containing bones, and a large one, pretty entire, on the farm of Riskhouse. (*New Stat. Acc. of Scotland*.)

In 1574 Mr. George Nicolson had a stipend of £53 6s. 8d. Scots as minister of Gartly and three adjoining parishes,

and John Leslye, the contemporary reader at Gartly, had a salary of 20 merks.

The present Church—a long narrow building—was erected in 1621, during the time of Mr. William Reid, who “taxed the faults of his parishioners bitterli, and not in the language of Scripture, quherby the people, instead of being edified, wer moved to laughter and derisione.” (*Scott's Fasti*)

The Church belfry is an ornamental piece of work, and upon it are slabs with these words:—

YIS IS IVLT [H  
BVLV . 1621  
MR . . RETHE  
10 . ROSS . MEASON . 1621.

The Bell bears an inscription in Latin, nearly similar to that at Ordiquhill. It is locally rendered thus:—

John Mowat made me,  
For the use of Gartly,  
To call upon the Clergy,  
And to mourn for the Dead.

A new stock was lately given to the bell, when the following inscription was copied by the schoolmaster:—

JOHN. MOWAT. ABD: ME. FE: 1758. IN. USUM. ECCLESIE.  
DE. GERTLY. — SABATA. PANGO. FUNERA. PLANGO.

It was also found that the inscription upon one of the stones of the belfry (which was conjectured to bear the name of the Rev. Mr. Rethe or Reid) bore:—

YIS. IS. BETHEL.

According to a writer of 1726, “the Church has an aisle wherein the house of Huntley is buried.” This was possibly the *Frendraught*, or *Crichton Aisle*, which entered from the nave of the Church. The site is still indicated by a mound on the south side of the kirk.

Spalding states that “the ashes and brynt bones” of the unfortunate barons and their servants who perished at the burning of Frendraught in 1630, were put in “sax kistis in the hail, which, with *gryte* sorrow and cair, wes had to the Kirk of Garntullie, and thair bureit.”

The area of the Church was at one time filled with human bones; but about fifty years ago these were removed, when some of them were thrown, with, it is feared,



but *little* "sorrow and cair," into the Crichton Aisle, others into the unseemly earthen platform before the pulpit.

As a whole, the Church, which has been frequently repaired, is a sorry fabric, and the surrounding burial ground, although it contains a number of monuments, presents little of general interest.

One dateless Stone, fixed to the south wall of the kirk, bears this brief inscription:—

- I. Mr. George Gordon, Gartly,  
an honest man, regarded by all. aged 92.

From the area of the burial-yard:—

II. Sub spe beatæ resurrectionis hoc jacent tumulo et contumulantur in uno cognati Pater, c' Filii Filia' Mater.

[In this grave lie buried together, in the hope of a happy resurrection, a Father and Mother, with their Sons and Daughters.]

Alexander Smith, sometime in Drumbulge, dyed Novr. the 20th, 1736, aged 60 years; and his spouse, Bessie Christie, dyed March, 17—, aged 43 years, &c.

From a table stone:—

III. Wm. Jessiman, born in Currilaar, died there 1801, a. 84; his sp. Elspet Burges, d. 1759, a. 43—

The smiles of fortune or her frowns

They never could me move,

My heart was fixed on God, my hope

Was in his boundless love.

The next three inscriptions are from table-shaped stones:—

IV. Here lyes Elizabeth Chalmers, who died in Kirkhill the 4th of April, 1768, aged 63 years, lawful spouse to the deceased Mr. John Chalmers, sometime notary public in Ersfield, in the parish of Kennethmont. Also Janet Chalmers, spouse of Alex. Ingram in Coxton: she died 7th Jany., 1814, aged 73 years. Also his son, John Ingram, farmer, Coxton, who died 14th April, 1859, aged 88 years [2 drs. recorded dead]. Also his wife, Janet Green, who died on the 14th February, 1871, in her 78th year.

- V. Remember, man, as thou goest by,  
As thou art now, so once was I.

Here lies interred the mortal remains of James Sangster, sometime farmer in Moshead, who departed into eternity upon

the 13th April, 1800 years, after he had trod the stage of Time for the space of 70 years—

At Angel's voice and Trumpet's sound,  
Shall dust arise, and bones be joined.

Under this stone is laid all that was mortal of James Black son to James Black in Daugh, late Lieutenant in His Majesty's 90th Regiment of Foot, who departed this life 18th of Dec. 1796 in the 25th year of his age. His merits were such that they are to be held in estimation of all who knew him while memory can record worth. As also Mary Garioch, daughter to James Black in Daugh, who departed this life the 2nd of Sept. 1796 in the 73rd year of her age.

From headstones:—

1777 In memory of George Forbes, late farmer in Whitelums, who died in 1755 aged 54: also of his spouse, Christian Thomson, who died in 1752 aged 41.

Abridged:—

1777 Alexander Mitchell, who erected this stone, died 2nd Jan. 1746 aged 54 years, and is here interred. . . .

It may be worthy of note that, within the kirkyard of *Gartly* in the ashes of a female, who, according to local story, was lost by her husband on the day of her marriage, and her remains were forgotten by him upon that of her funeral. While such incidents show the convivial state of society at the time, it would be ungenerous to look upon the latter as for the first time unknown in Scotland even as the present day: in any other light than that of the widow's anxiety to show hospitality to those who attended the funeral of his wife, many of whom had come from distant parts of the country.

The facts of such cases are these:—A well-to-do farmer in *Gartly* was married at a considerable distance from his own residence: and when the bride left her father's for her new home in *Gartly*, she was placed, as was then customary, upon the pillion behind the bridegroom. When the bridegroom arrived at his house, he called upon the friends who had assembled to welcome the pair home to "Take down the guidwife!" "There's nae guidwife there!" was the reply, to which the bridegroom, after a short pause, answered—"I'll wager yon was her 'at gaed klost i' the burn o' Aul' Rayne!" Messengers we



despatched in quest of the lost bride, who was found in the locality indicated by the bridegroom, drying her garments by the side of "a blazin' ingle!"

It is told, as a sequel to this "slip," that when the same woman died, and when the funeral procession was some distance upon the road to the kirkyard, the widower suddenly called out, "Stop, stop, sirs! there's a mistak' here!" Strange to say, the remains of his wife had been forgot to be placed into the cart (there being but few hearses in those days), in which they were to be conveyed to their last resting place!

Besides the Parish Kirk, at which, in 1650 (*Acta Parl.* vi., 608), a servant of Leith of Harthill was killed in cold blood by two of Leith's brothers, there were at one time three places of worship in Gartly. One of these stood at Kirkney, the second at Talathrewie (St. Finnan), and the third at Brawlinknow. According to tradition, an infant son of the Baron of Gartly was drowned in the Bogie, in a pool still called *Lord John's Pot*, while being carried home, after baptism, from the Chapel of Brawlinknow.

Barclays, of the Towie race, were designed lords or barons of Grantully from at least 1367; and Sir Alexander, the laird of the period, fell at the Battle of Arbroath in 1445-46. About a century afterwards the lands of Gartly appear to have passed from the Barclays to Gordon of Auchendown; and upon the death of Sir Patrick Gordon of Auchendown in 1600, the Marquis of Huntly succeeded as heir male.

The Castle of Gartly, of which, unfortunately, very little remains, stood upon the farm of the Mains of Gartly. According to Chalmers, Mary Queen of Scots rested at Grantully both on her way to and from the North. It was also the scene of a ballad called "The Barone o' Gartly," which tells that the Baron's lady, during his absence in the wars, became the wife of Gordon of Lesmore, and that, the Baron having consulted "weird sisters" in a cave on the Binhill of Cairney regarding the affair, revenged the insult by burning the Castle of Gartly, its faithless lady, and the whole inmates.

Among the many romantic glens and corries in Gartly, possibly that of Tillieminit is the most beautiful; and there, upon a slab built in the farm house, is a shield bearing a much defaced coat of arms, probably those of Gordon.

The parish of Gartly, which is wholly the property of the Duke of Richmond, is situated partly in the counties of Aberdeen and Banff.

A Free Church was erected on the north side of the Bogie in 1844, the Parish Minister having seceded at the Disruption of 1843.

There is a neat hamlet of houses, with shops and an inn, at the railway station of Gartly, from which the pretty district of Strathdon, and intermediate localities, may be reached daily by means of the mail cart.

"There has just been erected in the Parish Church a neat and tastefully executed tablet in memory of Dr. Allardyce, son of the late Mr. James Allardyce, Tillyminnat, in this parish. Dr. Allardyce, after labouring some years in Ceylon, resolved on paying a short visit to his native land, and scarcely had he set sail when steps were taken by his friends in Ceylon to raise subscriptions with the view of presenting him with some testimonial of their regard when he returned to the scene of his labours. Dr. Allardyce, however, took ill on his way home, and died on board the "Yangtse," in the Red Sea. In the circumstances the subscribers determined to expend the sum that had been raised in procuring a memorial-tablet to be erected in the Church of his native parish. The tablet is of white marble, embedded in black, and consists of a shield, surmounted by a cope, resting on two semicircular pillars, and in the shield is the following inscription:—

Sacred to the memory of James Allardyce, M.D., sometime District-Surgeon in Rakwand, Ceylon, who died off Suez, 27th November, 1878, aged 27 years. Erected by European and native residents in the districts in which he laboured in affectionate remembrance of his character and worth.

The tablet is one of the last works executed by the deceased Mr. Legge, sculptor, Aberdeen, and is in every way a beautiful piece of workmanship." (*Banffshire Journal*, 25th January, 1881.)

#### INVERKEITHNY.

The Church of Innerkethney was erected into a prebend of the Cathedral Church of Murray by Bishop Andrew de Moravia in a Synod of his clergy held at Elgin, in the Church of St. Giles the Abbot, on the 5th May, 1226.



By the Constitutions of the same Bishop Andrew, the prebendary of Inverkethny was required to find a deacon to serve as his vicar in the Cathedral Church.

Sir Alexander Caunt or Kant was prebendary of Innerkethny from 1487 to 1489. John Lockart or Lockert was prebendary from 1534 to 1557. Hew Cragy from 1560 to 1572. In 1561 "the personage of Inverkethnye was sett in assedatioun to Alexander Dunbar of Kwynac for auchty pundis yeirlie." (*Reg. Epis. Morav.*)

#### KEITH.

See my "Book of the Chronicles of Keith," &c.

#### RHYNIE AND ESSIE.

The parishes of Rhynie and Essie were united at a remote period. The Church of Essie was used as a place of worship till about thirty years ago, when it became ruinous. Since that time the parish has been generally known by the name of Rhynie only. (*Stat. Acc. of Scotland*, 1797.)

The ruins of Essie Kirk are a little way west from the Manor-house or Castle of Lesmore, also in ruins, a stronghold once possessed by an ancient branch of the Gordon family. *Eas* and *Easa* signify a waterfall. *Rhynie* has not been defined.

*The Tap o' Noth* is a very remarkable Hill here. It has a fountain on the very summit, without any current from it on the outside; but if a taper rod be put into the vein of the fountain it comes forth, in 24 hours space, at a large issue at the foot of the hill, called Coul's Burn after being carried three miles under ground by the force of the current. (*A Description of the Parishes of Essie and Rhynie*, circa. 1730.)

A mile distant from the Castle of Craig stands the great Hill of Noth, from its high conical summit called the *Top o' Noth*; on which, overlooking an immense tract of country, are the remains of an ancient fortress, formerly thought to have been the mouth of a volcano, but now known to be one of those forts constructed of stones vitrified by the force of fire, of which kind many have lately been discovered in Scotland.

In the Glen of Noth (north side of the hill) is a prodigious cairn of small stones, called the Cairn of Mildewen,

which, I am told, means *the grave of a thousand, or of a great number*. Lord Hailes remarks that Lulach, whom Macbeth's party set up, after the usurper's death, was afterward discovered in his lurking-place in the parish of Essie in this neighbourhood; but, as after a careful search, no marks of a battle can be found in this parish, perhaps the monumental pile may have been raised upon that occasion. (F. Douglas' *Description of the East Coast of Scotland*.)

There is a tradition of a Battle having been fought at a remote period about the middle of this parish; and a large stone, about 5 feet in diameter, on which there are some hieroglyphical characters, standing on the Moor of Rhynie, is said to have been erected in memory of the engagement. Part of this stone has been lately broken. There are some monumental stones scattered throughout the parish, rudely carved with hieroglyphics, much defaced. (*The Old and New Stat. Acc. of Scotland*.)

The erection by Bricius, Bishop of Murray, of the Church of Rynyn into one of the eight prebends of the Cathedral Church of the Diocese, was ratified by his successor, Andrew de Moravia, in a Synod of his clergy held in the Church of Saint Giles the Abbot, at Elgin on the fifth of May, 1226.

The prebendary of Ryny was bound to provide a Sub-Deacon to serve as his vicar in the Cathedral Church.

Master David Monypeny was prebendary of Ryny from 1473 to 1489. In 1488 he was amerced in the seventh part of the fruits of his benefice for contumacy and non-residence at the Cathedral.

Alexander Hepburne was prebendary of Ryne from 1539 to 1547.

John Lesly was titular prebendary, Thomas Sutherland usufructuary, of Rhyny, from 1547 to 1556.

Thomas Sutherland was prebendary from 1556 to 1557. James Gordon, son of the Earl of Huntly, was prebendary in 1560. (*Reg. Epis. Morav.*)

#### ROTHIEMAY.

The Church was one of the mensal churches of the Bishop of Moray, and was dedicated to St. John or to St. Durstan.

A little east of the village of Milton is Rothiemay



House, traditionally said to have afforded a night's lodging to Queen Mary.

A Druidical Temple is a little to the north of the village, and a supposed Roman road runs north-westward through the western district.

JAMES FERGUSON'S BIRTHPLACE NOT IN ROTHIE MAY.

"*I was Born in the year 1710 a few miles from Keith, a little village in Banffshire, in the North of Scotland,*" are the words of this great genius from his own *Autobiography*, a fact which has been received wherever his name has been known, and in every Encyclopædia it is thus notified. Surely one so accurate in everything else, and being 64 years old when he wrote his own life, was not likely not to know his native place. In his early years Ferguson's parents would have been certain to have alluded to the district and parish where he indicates, and about which he gives minutely many incidents which stuck so well to his memory.

By an Extract from "a stray leaf of a mass of loose leaves" the Rev. Dr. Simmie of Rothiemay, Dr. Ebenezer Henderson of Muckart, and Robert Sim, Keith, reiterate, in triumvirate, that the *Birth* and *Birthplace* of the self-taught Prodigy were at the Core of Mayen, Rothiemay. Mr. R. Sim in his little volume, *Legends of Strathisla*, &c., p. 150 (1862), argues even wearisomely that Ferguson "intentionally, not ignorantly or inadvertently, concealed the fact of the place of his birth by giving a very doubtful locality"! Such an idea need not be characterised. The *Baptismal Entry*, or rather Jotting, on this said "stray leaf of a mass of loose leaves," formerly at Rothiemay, has been twisted by the above writers—the one copying the other—into evidence for the place of *Birth*. It cannot veritably be so construed, inasmuch as, in this case, the *Date of Birth* is left out; whereas, in the Scotch Parish Registers, dates both of Birth and Baptism are invariably inserted. That the Fergusons resided at the Core of Mayen there can be no doubt; but the tradition, still current among those whose *forbearis* were born and bred in Keith, is that Ferguson's father, being a poor labouring man, was necessitated to go for work to Rothiemay, where his infant James was carried and Baptized, a few weeks after his Birth in the Parish of

Keith. Repeated instances of the same kind occur of children having been *Born* in one parish but *Baptized* in another. My own father was so; and his father, moreover, was an Elder in two parishes, and carried his son for Baptism 5 miles from the place of his Birth to a different parish. In large towns the like instances are multitudinous. Ferguson never once mentions this Core of Mayen or Rothiemay, so that, from his own mouth (as printed at the beginning of this Article), and by authentic tradition, KEITH has the indubitable title of claiming as "a son of the soil" this rare innate mechanic, Natural philosopher, and astronomer, towering in ingenuity and intellect far above the ordinary acquirements of humanity—as a compeer with Galileo, Sir John Herschel, and Sir Isaac Newton, embalmed among the most gifted that this world ever produced.

RUTHVEN.

See my "*Book of the Chronicles of Keith*," &c., 1880.

END OF VOL. II.





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